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THE TIMES

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 25 1983

20p

THE TIMES Tomorrow

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Fulke Walwyn, the Lambourn master bids for his eighth Hennessy Gold Cup, with Everett. Michael Phillips reports

Ford faces complete shutdown

Ford Motor Company faces a complete shutdownm in the new year as shop stewards urge the company's 44,500 manual workers to reject the 7.5 per cent pay offer next week and strike from January 3. If the strike goes ahead, Ford's 24 plants would remain shut from December 23.

Space doubts

Doubts about the Soviet space programme remain despite the safe return of two cosmonauts who spent 150 days on board Salyut 7 Page 9

Medicine on trial

Britain's first scientific trial comparing conventional and alternative medicine could come in the field of back pain, after a feasibility study by the Medical Research Council Page 3

Opera pledge

The Royal Opera House has pledged to cut costs by £600,000 a year if the Government rescues it from its present financial crisis. The company is set to lose £1.4m this year Page 3

Treason term

A young Afrikaner who belongs to the African National Congress and advocates violence to overthrow apartheid, was jailed for 15 years for high treason in Johannesburg Page 9

Glenn's gloom

Senator John Glenn's presidential hopes are on the wane. A film about his life has failed at the box office Page 9



Divers foiled

British Nuclear Fuels' divers foiled attempts yesterday by Greenpeace divers to block the inder-sea waste pipe from the Sellafield nuclear processing plant in Cumbria.

End of classic

Outstanding debts have brought the end of the Bob Hope Classic golf tournament, which has been held at Moor Park for the past four years. Page 28

Andropov hits back with threat of new sea missiles

From Richard Owen, Moscow

President Andropov last night stated categorically that the Geneva talks on medium-range nuclear missiles had broken down and hinted Russia would not return to them or resume its freeze on SS20 deployment unless the United States withdrew its missiles from Europe. He also hinted that Moscow would hit back at Washington by deploying new Soviet missiles which could threaten American territory from "ocean areas and seas".

In a statement read for him on television, Mr Andropov said that from the outset that America had never intended to reach a mutually acceptable agreement at Geneva. Moscow had realized that Washington had "swiftly torpedoed" any chance of an agreement and had therefore decided that "further participation in thses talks is impossible".

The Soviet delegation at the talks in Geneva walked out on Wednesday without setting a date for their resumption. Mr Andropov, whose statement was read for him and who did not appear himself, said the Soviet Union had "abrogated" its self-imposed moratorium on the deployment of SS20s in Europe. Western experts say Russia has deployed SS20s throught the Geneva talks.

The Soviet leader confirmed that Russia had begun preparations to move tactical nuclear weapons into East Germany and Czechoslovakia, and added that since the stationing of Pershing 2 and cruise in Western Europe increased the nuclear threat to the Soviet Union, "corresponding" Soviet systems would be deployed in ocean areas and seas.

This is taken to be a reference to submarine-launched missiles. Soviet officials have already indicated that Moscow is not prepared to deploy missiles in Cuba for fear of risking a repeat of the 1962 crisis. Since stationing rockets in the Kamchatka peninsula would alarm Japan – although missiles in the Far East could reach the American west coast – submarine-based missiles are the only remaining Soviet option.

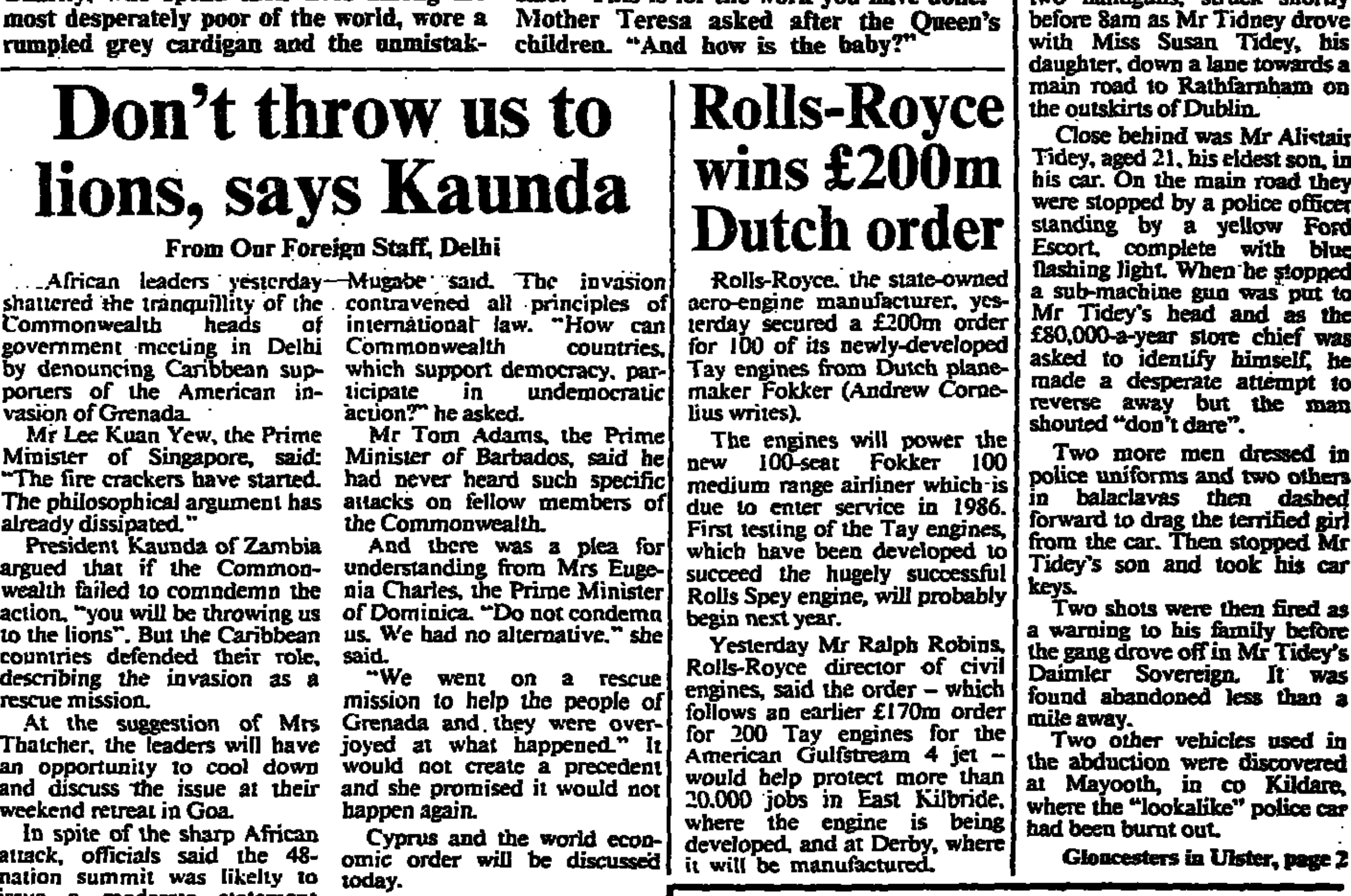
Mr Andropov's authoritative statement appeared partly designed to calm rumours about his health and to make clear that he is still in command of Soviet policy despite Kremlin manoeuvring.

He spoke vaguely of "further measures", but said they would be "strictly within the limits dictated by the actions of Nato countries" and would only amount to "what is absolutely necessary to prevent the military balance from being disrupted".

In a passage which leaves the way open for a possible eventual resumption of talks, Mr Andropov said that if the United States and Nato showed a readiness to "return to the situation which existed" before the Nato deployments began the Soviet Union would be prepared to do the same.

He said the Kremlin called on the leaders of America and Western Europe to reconsider and to weigh the full consequences of the deployment of cruise and Pershing, which he said threatened "their own

Continued back page, col 2



Proud moment: Mother Teresa of Calcutta receiving the insignia of the Honorary Order of Merit from the Queen yesterday at the presidential palace in Delhi. The 73-year-old founder of the Missionaries of Charity, who spend their lives among the most desperately poor of the world, wore a rumpled grey cardigan and the unmistakable cotton sari with the blue bands that identifies her order (Michael Hamlyn writes). The Queen's pearl earrings, triple row of pearls and diamond brooch twinkled in the photographers' lamps. The Queen said: "This is for the work you have done." Mother Teresa asked after the Queen's children. "And how is the baby?"

Gunmen kidnap stores chief

From Richard Ford
Dublin

Five armed men, some dressed as policemen, kidnapped a senior executive of one of Ireland's multi-million pound stores empires yesterday as he drove his daughter aged 13 to school in the suburbs of Dublin.

The snatching of Mr Don Tidey, aged 49, came three months after the foiling of an attempt in co Wicklow by the Provisional IRA to kidnap his chief Mr Gaben Weston, the Canadian millionaire businessman.

As the search for Mr Tidey was concentrated on the border areas last night, Mr Michael Noonan, Minister for Justice in the Irish Republic, described the kidnap as having "all the hallmarks of a paramilitary operation".

Chief Superintendent Patrick Culligan, in charge of the hunt, could not say if the kidnap was linked with the abortive abduction of Mr Weston but added: "It was a very professional job. It has all the hallmarks of many of the kidnaps we have had in this country."

He said that he had no reason to fear for the life of Mr Tidey, a widower born in Exeter, south Devon, who has worked in Ireland for 20 years and lives in a luxury house in the foothills of the Dublin mountains. The kidnapping happened only 250 yards from his home

"We have received no message and the kidnappers have not been in contact, but we expect to hear from them", he added.

The gang, armed with three sub-machine guns and at least two handguns, struck shortly before 8am as Mr Tidney drove with Miss Susan Tidey, his daughter, down a lane towards a main road to Rathfarnham on the outskirts of Dublin.

Close behind was Mr Alistair Tidey, aged 21, his eldest son, in his car. On the main road they were stopped by a police officer standing by a yellow Ford Escort, complete with blue flashing light. When he stopped a sub-machine gun was put to Mr Tidey's head and as the £80,000-a-year store chief was asked to identify himself, he made a desperate attempt to reverse away but the man shouted "don't dare".

Two more men dressed in police uniforms and two others in balaclavas then dashed forward to drag the terrified girl from the car. Then stopped Mr Tidey's son and took his car keys.

Two shots were then fired as a warning to his family before the gang drove off in Mr Tidey's Daimler Sovereign. It was found abandoned less than a mile away.

Two other vehicles used in the abduction were discovered at Mayooth, in co Kildare, where the "lookalike" police car had been burnt out.

Gloucesters in Ulster, page 2

UK trade balance plunges to £429m deficit

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Britain's trade balance with the rest of the world plunged into the red last month, recording a deficit of £429m after a surplus of £145m in September.

The £574m turnround – typical of the erratic trading pattern of recent months – was almost entirely due to a 10 per cent surge in imports to record levels, though exports also fell slightly.

After including an estimated £160m surplus on trade in invisibles such as financial services, shipping and tourism, the current account of the balance of payments swung into deficit of £269m in October from a surplus of £305m the month before.

In the first 10 months of this year the current account surplus has dwindled to only £398m, compared with the £5,428m recorded in 1982. The Treasury last week predicted a surplus for 1983 as a whole of £500m and this is expected to deteriorate further to no more than balance in 1984.

The trade figures – which were much worse than the City had expected – depressed the pound, which ended the day 40 points lower against a stronger dollar at $1.4650. Its trade weighted index was unchanged at 83.4 per cent of its 1975 level.

Without the contributon of North Sea oil – £5,330m so far in 1983 – Britain would be running an unsustainable balance of payments deficit.

Economic recovery normally leads to a worsening trade balance as higher consumer demand and company stock-building suck in imports. But this year the problem has been exacerbated by the sluggish upturn in Europe with which Britain does more than half its trade. This has depressed exports while intensifying competition for the buoyant British market.

Whitehall officials said yesterday that the sharp rise in imports in October looked erratically high. But the underlying trend has been climbing in recent months.

Between July and October imports rose by 3 per cent in volume terms – with a 14 per cent jump in imports of consumer goods – and so far this year they have been running 7 per cent above the 1982 average, rather more than the Treasury had predicted.

The October import figures may, however, signal some good news for the economy. Higher imports of capital goods, intermediate goods and basic materials suggest increasing investment and some restocking after the steep rundown of stocks in the third quarter.

Finance and Industry, page 21

Arafat to quit Tripoli as part of PLO truce

Damascus (Reuter) – Supporters and opponents of Mr Yassir Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, agreed yesterday to an indefinite ceasefire in the north Lebanese port of Tripoli, and to settle their differences peacefully, a senior mediator announced.

The eventual departure of Mr Arafat from Tripoli, where he is besieged by rebel forces, was believed to be part of the deal.

Palestinian sources said a withdrawal of rival guerrillas from the area into camps, the possible involvement of an Arab peacekeeping force, and talks between the loyalists and the rebels were also thought to be under discussion.

The announcement that both factions had agreed was made here by Mr Narasimha Rao, the Indian Foreign Minister, who led a four-nation delegation of mediators from the Non-Aligned Movement which also included Yugoslavia, Cuba and Senegal.

The rebel spokesman, Mr Mahmoud Labbadi, said his forces were committed to both the indefinite ceasefire and a peaceful settlement.

The Assiciated Press in Tripoli quoted reliable PLO and Lebanese sources as saying Mr Arafat was ready to leave the city, and would leave within 48 hours for Cyprus.

Exchange of prisoners, page 4

Don't throw us to lions, says Kaunda

From Our Foreign Staff, Delhi

African leaders yesterday shattered the tranquillity of the Commonwealth heads of government meeting in Delhi by denouncing Caribbean supporters of the American invasion of Grenada.

Mr Lee Kuan Yew, the Prime Minister of Singapore, said: "The fire crackers have started. The philosophical argument has already dissipated."

President Kaunda of Zambia argued that if the Commonwealth failed to comndemn the action, "you will be throwing us to the lions". But the Caribbean countries defended their role, describing the invasion as a rescue mission.

At the suggestion of Mrs Thatcher, the leaders will have an opportunity to cool down and discuss the issue at their weekend retreat in Goa.

In spite of the sharp African attack, officials said the 48-nation summit was likelty to issue a moderate statement avoiding outright condemnation of the invasion, while restating support for non-intervention as basic policy.

Mrs Thatcher urged the Commonwealth not to look back in anger but to look forward to the establishment of normality in Grenada. She offerd British help for police training and the holding of free elections.

But the African leaders, notably Mr Kaunda, Mr Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwe's Prime Minister, and President Nyerere of Tanzania, feared the invasion might set a precedent and encourage South Africa to take similar action in states near by.

The Commonwealth convention of non-intervention in the internal affairs of a member country had been attacked, eroded and destroyed, Mr Mugabe said. The invasion contravened all principles of international law. "How can Commonwealth countries, which support democracy, participate in undemocratic action?" he asked.

Mr Tom Adams, the Prime Minister of Barbados, said he had never heard such specific attacks on fellow members of the Commonwealth.

And there was a plea for understanding from Mrs Eugenia Charles, the Prime Minister of Dominica. "Do not condemn us. We had no alternative," she said.

"We went on a rescue mission to help the people of Grenada and they were overjoyed at what happened." It would not create a precedent and she promised it would not happen again.

Cyprus and the world economic order will be discussed today.

● **Grenada hitch:** Confirming recent suspicions that obstacles had emerged over the appointment of Mr Alister McIntyre as head of Grenada's temporary Government, the Commonwealth Secretariat announced in Delhi yesterday that the economist will not be taking the post (Our Foreign Staff writes).

While illness was given as the official reason, reports in Grenada and Geneva spoke of him being reluctant to take a year's leave as deputy director-general of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad).

The problem over who would take precedence on Grenada – Mr McIntyre as council head, or Sir Paul Scoon as governor-general – was also unresloved.

Mr McIntyre will make a statement through Unctad in Geneva today.

Rolls-Royce wins £200m Dutch order

Rolls-Royce, the state-owned aero-engine manufacturer, yesterday secured a £200m order for 100 of its newly-developed Tay engines from Dutch planemaker Fokker (Andrew Cornelius writes).

The engines will power the new 100-seat Fokker 100 medium range airliner which is due to enter service in 1986. First testing of the Tay engines, which have been developed to succeed the hugely successful Rolls Spey engine, will probably begin next year.

Yesterday Mr Ralph Robins, Rolls-Royce director of civil engines, said the order – which follows an earlier £170m order for 200 Tay engines for the American Gulfstream 4 jet – would help protect more than 20,000 jobs in East Kilbride, where the engine is being developed, and at Derby, where it will be manufactured.



Prior offers all-party talks on security

By Philip Webster
Political Reporter



Mr Prior: "Talks a necessary step".

Mr James Prior, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, has offered new all-party talks on security in the province in an attempt to encourage the Official Unionist Party to return to the Northern Ireland Assembly.

He has sent invitations to the Official Unionists, the Democratic Unionists, the Alliance Party and the Social Democratic and Labour Party, which has never taken up its seats in the Assembly.

Mr Prior's invitation is likely to be considered at a meeting today of the executive of the Official Unionists, whose withdrawal from the Assembly in the wake of the murder of three church elders last Sunday in a Pentecostal hall near Darkley, co Armagh, has put the future of the Assembly in jeopardy. The indications were that it would be received sympathetically.

Mr James Molyneaux, the leader of the Official Unionists, told *The Times* last night: "One of the objectives of withdrawing from the Assembly was to force the Government to improve security policy. It would be churlish to reject a new initiative out of hand. I would take a sympathetic view of the invitation."

Mr Prior announced his intentions to set up new talks in an interview to be broadcast tonight in the Channel 4 television programme, *A Week in Politics*.

Continued on back page, col 1

Sogat defies injunction to end magazine 'blacking'

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

In another big challenge to the Government's labour laws members of the print union, Sogat '82, yesterday defied a High Court injunction seeking to stop them from "blacking" about seven out of ten magazines distributed in London.

As the action continued yesterday there were fears that the union could now face a fine for contempt of court, as happened in the case of the National Graphical Association which has refused to pay its fine.

Sogat was given until this afternoon to appeal against the injunction, won by the Federation of London Wholesale Newspaper Distributors, but the order had immediate effect when it was granted on Wednesday.

Mr William Keys, general secretary of the union, is expected to press for an emergency meeting of his national council today to instruct members of the Central London branch, who are taking the action in sympathy with colleagues at the Park Royal plant of the British Printing and Communications Corporation in North London, to end the blacking. Union and management at the plant cannot agree over the replacement of printing presses.

While newspaper wholesalers were still hoping yesterday that by today Sogat members will have decided to obey the order, managment at *The Sunday Times*, *The Observer* and the *Mail on Sunday*, which are printed by BPCC, decided to cut the print run of their magazines so that none will be produced for the London area.

The action has also affected the distribution of the *Radio Times*, *The Listener*, *TV Times*, *Woman*, *Woman's Own*, *Women's Weekly*, *Woman's Realm*, *Country Life* and several other magazines, all printed by BPCC.

Fleet Street strike looms

Day of decisions over NGA

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Attempts to find a negotiated settlement of the *Stockport Messenger* dispute were deadlocked last night as the threat of a national newspaper strike loomed.

National Graphical Association are pressing for early escalation of the dispute, but at a meeting in London last night others were counselling caution in view of today's hearing in the High Court in Manchester when the NGA will be asked why it has refused to pay a £50,000 fine imposed last week.

The fine, imposed by Mr Justice Boreham after the union ignored an injunction halting unlawful secondary picketing at offices of the *Stockport Messenger* group of newspapers, will remain unpaid, union leaders have said, and it is widely thought that the judge will issue a stiffer penalty at today's hearing.

Fleet Street Officials of the NGA delayed taking any action until they hear the result of this morning's Court hearing.

Mr Joe Wade, General Secretary of the NGA said as he left last night's meeting of about 200 branch and office officials that he expected a "spontaneous reaction" from Fleet Street workers, if the court today moved to seize union assets.

Mr Dennis Boyd, chief conciliation officer of the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) tried unsuccessfully yesterday to establish talks to obtain a deal covering the six dismissed men, who the union claims have been victimized. That was being seen as a possible way of avoiding between the union and the courts over the Government's employment legislation.

But it became clear last night that Mr Selim Shah, chairman of the *Stockport Messenger* group, had withdrawn from a provisional agreement for a post-entry closed shop covering his printing staff and he emphasized that he was not prepared to rehire the six men.

The NGA has said that it will continue what it describes as "mass demonstrations" against the newspaper group until six men dismissed more than five months ago are reinstated. Leaders of print unions in the north-west predicted that even bigger mass pickets than those seen this week will be orgsanized next week.

Speaking to *The Times*, Mr Shah said that he intended to pursue the case through the courts and would eventually bring an action for damages against the union. He goes back to the High Court in Manchester today to make an application to seek leave to issue a writ of sequestration of NGA funds.

"We shall continue to go back to court and use the law until the NGA stops picketing so the I can safeguard my staff", Mr Shah said.

Printing breakthrough, page 2

New paper's publication marks breakthrough in typesetting methods

By Mark Rosselli

Next Tuesday sees the first publication of a newspaper which may alter the whole way papers are run in Britain, and finally allow the widespread introduction of the latest computer technology that the industry desperately needs.

Motorcycling Weekly will be a tabloid newspaper costing 30p, with a print run of 70,000 copies. Its pedigree is old and honourable: the original *Motorcycling Weekly* was bought by Victorian enthusiasts in the late nineteenth century.

The reborn weekly uses the very latest in technology and represents something of a revolution in British printing labour relations. The breakthrough is that its journalists will be inputting their words directly on to computer discs; thereafter the printers will add typesetting instructions before the material is turned into type.

For years newspaper proprietors have tried to introduce direct input by journalists, by which reporters and sub-editors write copy on computer terminals and then use the same terminals to send the finished product directly into a typesetting computer.

For years the move has been totally opposed by the print unions, led by the National Graphical Association, because it would tend to eliminate the need for the traditional printer.

Those newspapers which have gone ahead with computer technology have had to bow to NGA insistence and allow NGA members to continue setting their type. Journalists use their terminals to write their stories on paper: this is then typed back into the computer by NGA men on separate terminals.

This extra step in the process considerably reduces the advantages of speed and low cost which the technology offers.

Only one sizable newspaper has gone the whole hog and introduced direct inputting, but at the cost of alienating members of all unions. The *Nottingham Evening Post*, which defied the NGA five years ago, has since been blacked by the National Union of Journalist.

But *Motorcycling Weekly* has found a compromise unique in British newspapers. The 10 editorial staff type and edit all their own copy on Typecraft Systems Computers and store it on floppy discs.

The NGA inserts the disc and keys in the final typesetting instructions to the computer – the work of seconds.

Motorcycling Weekly is owned by Coastal Press, whose managing director is Mr Bill Thomson. He said: "I am well aware that I am running into experimental areas. We have a rather unusual arrangement to say the least."

The secret of Mr Thomson's success is that he has worked all along with the NGA rather than against it, and also that his employees have plenty of work on Coastal Press's many other publishing and printing projects.

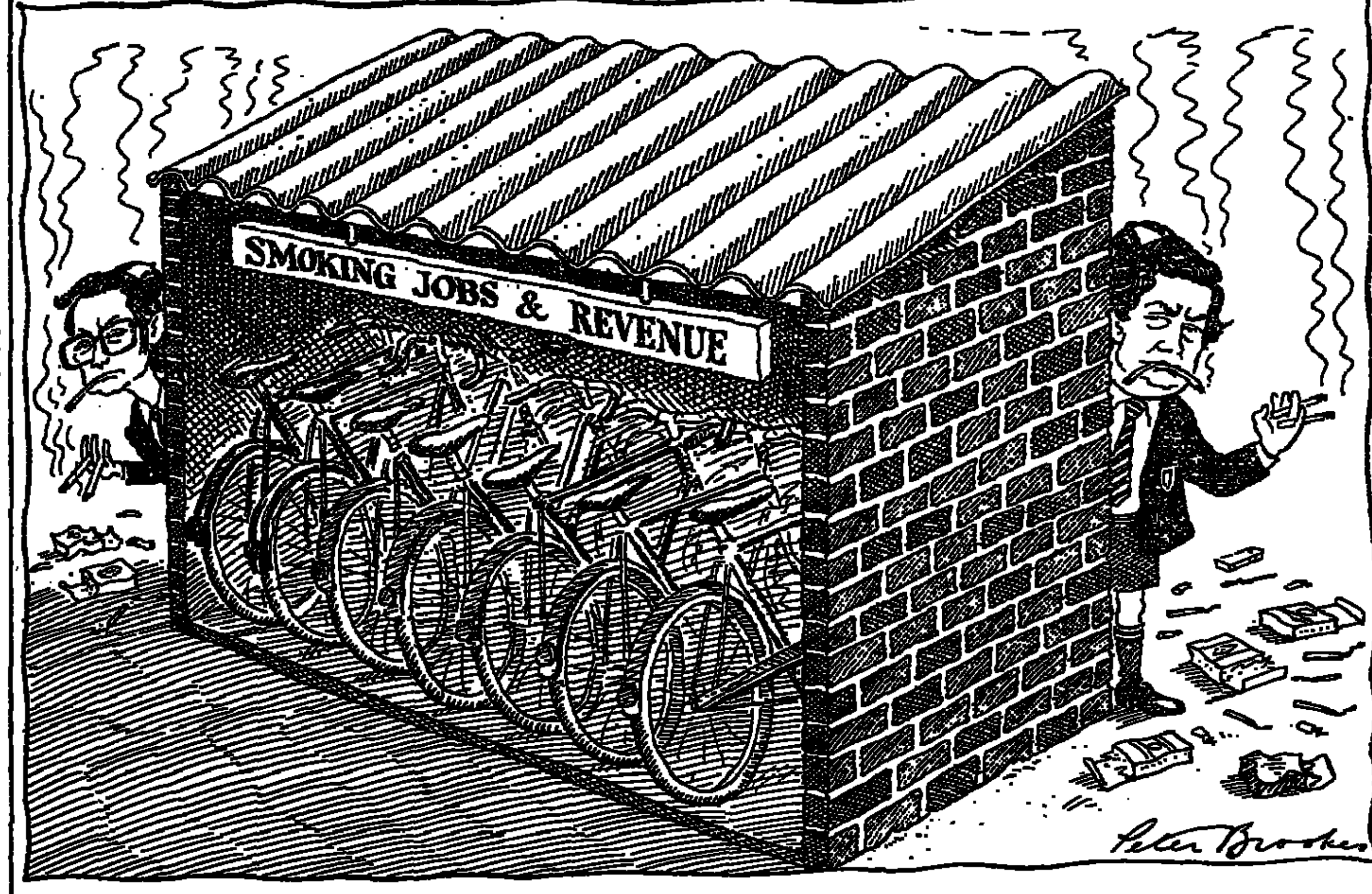
Mr Thomson said: "The union wish to protect their jobs, and there are no union jobs at stake. I am in fact creating NGA jobs and other union jobs. I am not out to use new technology to destroy jobs.

"I have combined new technology – which is all British – to give us the efficiency factors that I belive will make publishing more profitable. It does not matter whether you are talking about a small magazine or a very large newspaper."

The lead shown by *Motorcycling Weekly* has arrived in the nick of time. All the signs are that the newspaper industry in Britain is heading for a showdown.

In June the provincial newspaper industry launched a campaign called Project Breakthrough, aimed at creating the right climate for the negotiated introduction of direct inputting. Behind this, though, many provincial papers have been secretly training members of staff to do other jobs that would allow them to run the newspapers in the event of a strike.

The provincial ultimatum to the NGA was blunt: agree with the principle of introducing full computer technology by the end of 1984, or we publish newspapers without you at all.



Tebbit attacks Telecom unions

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

The Government last night launched its first direct attack on the Post Office Engineering Union (POEU) by denying that privatization would automatically mean price increases and accused the union of pursuing its own self interest.

In his first principal speech outlining policy on telecommunications, Mr Norman Tebbit, secretary of state for Trade and Industry, emphasized that British Telcom was going to be encouraged not just *to compete at home* but abroad.

The POEU and its policy toward privatization was his principle target. Speaking at the House of Commons to a constituency club, he said: "It is no accident that it is the Post Office Engineering Union which is fighting so hard to preserve the *British Telecom* monopoly, for this union, as all unions, is naturally allied to monopoly. I understand a union pleading the case for the industrial monopoly, since this so closely mirrors its own *concern to achieve labour* monopoly. But I reject entirely the argument which is made that industrial monopoly is somehow in the consumer interest."

This is the first time the *Government has directly* responded to the allegations made about the effects of privatization by the POEU. The Government is concerned that not enough is being done to outline its intentions on privatization.

The new Telecommunications *Bill which will be law* next year, empowers the Government to sell 51 per cent of British Telecom. The sale is due to start in the autumn of next year.

Success for System X

● The British digital electronic telephone exchange, System X, has been awarded a £20m contract by Hull City Council. It is the system's first important contract from any group other than British Telecom since its launch four years ago.

GEC-Plessey, the system's manufactures, will replace the 14 aging electro-mechanical exchanges in the Hull area.

Market report, page 20
Finance and Industry, page 21

Ford threatened by twin disputes

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

A complete shutdown of the Ford Motor Company in the new year was threatened yesterday by senior shop stewards, who will recommend to mass meetings of the company's 44,500 manual workers over the next week that the strike should start on January 3.

The threat from blue collar staff coincides for the first time with a threat of action by white collar staff over the breakdown of talks on fresh pension provisions.

The first indications of whether the strike call to the manual workers will be supported are likely to come on Saturday at Swansea and on Sunday when the 8,500 hourly paid workers from the Halewood transmission and assembly plants on Merseyside have been called to a mass meeting.

Industry sources last night thought that there could be an overall vote for rejection of the company's final 7.5 per cent offer and in favour of a strike. But there is plenty of time for further negotiations.

A strike would mean that Ford's 24 plants would not reopen after the Christmas holiday, which starts on December 23. Mr Ronald Todd, the union's chief negotiator, said: "If our members want to see advances on shorter working time, pensions and consolidation of supplements, they have to fight for it".

The unions, led by the Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU) and the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, are not too concerned about the cash element, which gives increases of between £8.25 a week and £13.34.

It has not escaped their notices that, with fringe benefits included, the Vauxhall Motors settlement last month was worth about 8 per cent. Other improvements sought include an extra week's holiday.

The second dispute threat comes from three white collar sections of the unions after the breakdown yesterday of negotiations over pension improvements. The staff unions say they will close Ford's Warley headquarters in Essex, which is also the headquarters of Ford of Europe, so seriously affecting the company's operations on the Continent.

'Fines' on inefficient health authorities

By Nicholas Timmins, Health Service Correspondent

Health authorities that use high-value sites inefficiently for hospitals, clinics and offices will face financial penalties in future under plans circularized to all health authorities yesterday.

The Department of Health is asking *all health authorities to* review their holding of buildings and lands by next summer and to identify surplus and under-used property for sale so that the money raised can be used to give a better service to patients.

In England alone the National Health Service has more than 50,000 acres of land and 2,000 hospitals and in April this year 3,300 acres were awaiting sale.

In addition, health authorities will have to calculate a notional rent for each building and property based on its rateable value.

The rent will not be paid. but it will be used to compare how *efficiently* health authorities are using land and property.

Where an authority's notional rent is high compared to similar authorities in terms of the service it provides, action would be expected to reduce the notional rent. the circular says.

That would presumably involve better use of the buildings and land, or their sale and provision of the services from cheaper sites.

In due course, the circular says, the system will embrace a financial penalty for authorities that do no to reduce excessively high notional rent.

The circular is based on the Ceri Davies report on NHS property published earlier this year. Ministers have opted to introduce a financial penalty despite the fact that the working party which produced the report was not unanimous on the need for such a measure.

Each region is being asked to set up a panel, including private sector experts, to advise on property dealings, and a National Property Advisory group is being set up to advise ministers on estate matters and special problems.

In addition, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, is being pressed to introduce legislation that will allow health authorities to obtain outline planning permission for land they intend to sell to boost its value.

MP attacks Kinnock job choice

By Our Political Reporter

A left-wing Labour MP is likely to be reported to the Shadow Cabinet after making personal criticisms of his colleagues and describing Mr Neil Kinnock's front-bench appointments as "mainly a settlement of debts and blackmail".

Mr Robert Clay, MP for Sunderland North, wrote in a report to his general management committee earlier this month that Mr Kinnock was surrounded by "unsympathetic spokespersons", partly by choice of the Parliamentary Labour Party and partly by his own choice.

He attacked most of the Labour MPs who took part in a recent Commons debate on shipbuilding as being more interested in being "knowledgeable" and "statesmanlike" than in supporting the workers in the industry.

Lee 'confused'

Bruce Lee, who is appealing against his 1981 conviction for the manslaughter of 26 people in 11 cases of arson, said in evidence at the Court of Appeal yesterday that he was "tired and confused" when he made his confessions to the police.

Police stay cold

Newbury council, Berkshire, has refused permission to Thames Valley police guarding the perimeter fence at Greenham Common air base, to light braziers to keep themselves warm, under new by-laws due to come into force after December 11.

Gerhardt case

The Prime Minister has refused to refer to the Security Commission the case of Commodore Dieter Gerhardt, who is on trial for high treason in connexion with spying in South Africa, and who had access to classified information while attending naval engineering courses in Britain between 1956 and 1964.

Abbey rejected

The Government has rejected a plan to offer the eighteenth century Calke Abbey in Derbyshire in lieu of tax to pay death duties of £8m. The trustees had wanted to include in the offer substantial holdings to provide an endowment and source of capital for the future preservation of the Abbey.

Figures misleading Lawson admits

By Our Political Editor

Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said yesterday that the conventional presentation of public capital expenditure in government accounts was misleading, and he promised to make it clearer in next year's review.

The Chancellor, in common with his predecessor, Sir Geoffrey Howe, has been repeatedy pressed by his party to ensure that within the constraints of public expenditure there should be a higher proportion going to capital projects.

He said in the Commons that figures in the annual public expenditure White Paper gave a very poor guide to the impact of the public sector on the capital goods industries. It did not include the capital spending of the nationalized industries, running at about £7,000m this year.

Also the figures were expressed net of asset sales, so that sales of public sector housing, at more than £2,000m last year, had to be added.

Mr Lawson said that the figures were also much distorted by the "somewhat eccentric" treatment of the defence accounts

Mr Lawson said that, considered outside that straitjacket of misleading White Paper definitions, the usual basis for argument, total public sector capital spending, including nationalized industries' investment, rose by 38 per cent between 1978 and 1979 and between 1982 and 1983, from just over £12,000m to nearly £17,000m.

Adjusted to take account of sales of assets, the 1982-83 figure rose to nearly £20,000m

Parliament, page 4

Pensions at 63 rejected

By Our Social Services Correspondent

The Government has rejected proposals to introduce a common retirement age with full state pension of 63 for both men and women.

But the issue is to be studied by the wide-ranging inquiry into future pension provision announced by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, on Thursday.

Proposals last year by the House of Commons' Social Services Committee which included gradually bringing together the present retirement ages of 60 for women and 65 for men would have cost at least £500m a year at 1981/82 prices, the Government said yesterday.

In addition, proposals to introduce flexible retirement, with a reduced pension from the age of 60 but the chance to earn a higher pension by staying at work until 65, would involve heavy transitional costs

In a White Paper published yesterday in reply to the report the Government said, however, that it "has a good deal of sympathy with the proposals for flexibility and equal treatment for men and women".

Ulster visit: The Duchess of Gloucester, who flew with her husband to Northern Ireland yesterday for a one-day official visit, waving to the crowd at Fleming Fulton School, Belfast, after opening an extension to the building.

The school is one of the biggest rehabilitation centres for physically handicapped children in the United Kingdom.

The Duke and Duchess had arrived at RAF Aldersgrove and immediately embarked on separate programmes. The Duke, who is Colonel Commandant of the Royal Corps of Pioneers, spent the day with the Army.

The Duchess, who was visiting Northern Ireland in her capacity as chief patron of the Women Caring Trust, was later host at a lunch at Hillsborough Castle, co Down, for trust members. The couple spent six hours in the province before flying home.

Freeze on new homes predicted

By David Walker
Social Policy Correspondent

Councils greeted yesterday's announcement of the latest figures for house building next year with the prediction that the Government will have to freeze all new building of council houses by the middle of next year to avoid breaching cash limits.

The Association of Metropolitan Authorities said that building projects already committed for 1984-85 already topped £2,000m and were in danger of breaking the Treasury's limit. By next April, projects could be well over the target and the Government would have to declare a moratorium on building.

"The effect would be havoc in the construction industry", a spokesman said.

***In allocating the housing* investment programme, the Government has tried to steer money towards councils with a heavy commitment to grants for home improvement, to cushion a recently announced reduction in *government subsidies* for such grants.**

Yesterday's announcement by Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, said that housing associations can expect £687m, compared with £690m

In total, local authorities in England get a net provision for housing and improvement of £1,028m but the Government is assuming that over £2,500m will be spent once councils add their receipts from the sale of council houses.

University 'pay offs' use up funds

By Ngaio Crequer
of the *Times Higher Education Supplement*

The pressure of having to pay compensation to thousands of university dons taking early retirement has meant that money for new academic developments has run out.

Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dryer, chairman of the University Grants Committee, has written telling vice-chancellors about the decision.

The letter says: "We shall have no reserve left for distribution either in 1983-84 or 1984-85.

"*As a result, although the* committee will honour all eligibl claims for redundancy compensation, and for the cost of some part-time engagement of staff, it will not be able to support any new proposals for academic innovation."

Getting the message

If pupils are told that their parents will be informed by letter if they show good progress in English they do better at school, according to research undertaken in Cheshire (Our Education Correspondent writes).

The study, published in the current issue of *Educational Research*, the journal of the National Foundation for Educational Research, shows that simple "behaviour modification" works by increasing academic success.

Educational Research, Vol 25, No 3, November 1983 (Carfax Publishing Company, PO Box 25, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 1RW, £4).

Man in the news

Nalgo's pragmatist

By Barrie Clement
Labour Reporter



Mr Daly: "Administrator, not class warrior"

Mr John Daly, who takes over as general secretary of the National and Local Government Officers' Association tomorrow, is described by fellow trade unionists as "an administrator rather than a class warrior".

Mr Daly, who takes over from a fellow moderate, Mr *Geoffrey Drain, sees his reputation* for "extreme caution" and conservatism as an exaggeration of his qualities.

"If they say that I do not jump into decisions when there is time to think about them, *then that is true, but having* made the decision I can be fairly persistent.

He takes over the leadership of Britain's largest white collar trade union with its 800,000 members at a time when it faces considerable public concern over its role in leading the confrontation between social workers working in homes for the elderly and children against the employers.

He is described as someone who resides firmly on the right of the Labour Party and who will have difficulty in imple*menting some of the more left*-wing resolutions of the annual conference. "I am essentially a pragmatist," he says.

His predecessor, Mr Drain felt more than a little discomfiture in being the head of an organization which supported the Palestine Liberation Organization. Mr Daly will have similar problems.

Mr Daly has a seat on the TUC General Council and has consistently supported the initiation of a dialogue with the Government

Chess semi-finals seem to favour veterans

By Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent

The two semi-final matches in the Acorn Computers World Chess Championship Candidates series appear to be going in favour of the veterans.

Garry Kasparov, at 20, less than half his opponent's age, had black against Viktor Korchnoi in the second game of their match. That he was prepared to take risks was shown by thr fact that he played the Tarrasch Defence to the Queen's Pawn, a defence which gains free play fro Black's pieces at the expense of weakening the basic pawn structure, in particular the Queen's Pawn.

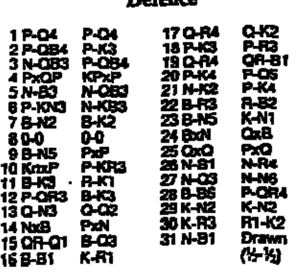
Korchnoi treated the opening in a fluent, brisk style. By the time the middle game was reached, Kasparov had taken about half an hour more than his opponent.

So when, on move 31, Korchnoi offered him a draw, the young grandmaster had little hesitation in accepting. So Korchnoi leads in the match by the score of 1½-½.

The adjourned first game of the match between Vassily Smyslov and Zoltan Ribli was resumed in a position where Smyslov had all the attacking changes.

Smyslov cleverly engineered a position in which Ribli's King was continually threatened by mating attacks. Ribli resigned the hopeless struggle on the 65th move.

So the former world champion Smyslov leads in his match against Ribli by 1-0.

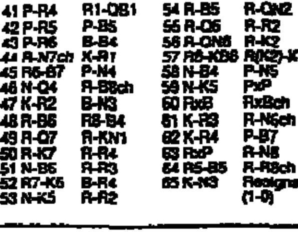


Second game
White Korchnoi, Black Kasparov
Q Gambit Declined Tarrasch Defence

1 P-Q4	P-Q4	17 Q-R4	Q-K2
2 P-QB4	P-K3	18 P-K3	P-R3
3 N-QB3	P-QB4	19 Q-R4	QR-B1
4 PxQP	KPxP	20 P-K4	P-Q5
5 N-B3	N-QB3	21 N-K2	P-K4
6 P-KN3	N-KB3	22 B-R3	R-B2
7 B-N2	B-K2	23 B-N5	K-N1
8 0-0	0-0	24 BxN	QxB
9 B-N5	PxP	25 QxQ	PxQ
10 KnxP	P-KR3	26 N-B1	N-R4
11 B-K3	R-K1	27 N-Q3	N-N6
12 P-QR3	B-K3	28 B-B5	P-QR4
13 Q-N3	Q-Q2	29 K-N2	K-N2
14 NxB	PxN	30 K-R3	R1-K2
15 QR-Q1	B-Q3	31 N-B1	Drawn
16 B-B1	K-R1		(½-½)

First game (continued)
White Smyslov, Black Ribli
Q.P. Queen's Indian Defence

41 P-R4	R1-QB1	54 R-B5	R-QN2
42 P-R5	P-B5	55 R-Q6	R-R2
43 P-R6	B-B4	56 R-QN6	R-K2
44 R-N7ch	K-R1	57 R6-KB6	R(K2)-K1
45 R6-B7	P-N4	58 N-B4	P-N5
46 N-Q4	R-B8ch	59 N-K5	PxP
47 K-R2	B-N3	60 RxB	RxBch
48 R-B6	R8-B4	61 K-R3	R-N6ch
49 R-Q7	R-KN1	62 K-R4	P-B7
50 R-K7	R-R4	63 RxP	R-N8
51 N-B6	R-R3	64 R5-B5	R-R8ch
52 R7-K5	B-R4	65 K-N3	Resigns
53 N-K5	R-R2		(1-0)



Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 28; Belgium B frs 60; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 150; Cyprus 580 mils; Denmark Dkr 7.50; Finland Mkk 8.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.25; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Luxembourg Lf 33; Madeira Esc 120; Morocco Dir 8.00; Norway Kr 7.50; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 125; Singapore $5.50; Spain Pes 150; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1.50; Yugoslavia Din 100

Falklands fishing limit

Britain holds back on 200-mile zone

By William Norris

The ocean around the Falkland Islands is full of fish. The hake and the blue whiting, to name but two species, are there *in abundance. And yet, in spite* of urgings by Lord Shackleton, and the Falklands Legislative Council, Britain has yet to declare a 200-mile fishing zone. It relies instead on the old three mile limit, based on the *effective range of a nineteenth* century cannon.

As a result the area is fished freely, though not intensively, by Poles, Russians, Spaniards, and West Germans.

There is no indigenous *fishing industry on the Falk*lands, mainly because the islanders apparently prefer mutton. In any case, as Lord Shackleton pointed out in his report of September, 1982, a single 50-60ft fishing boat would need to sell £3,500 worth of fish every week locally, to cover its operating costs; even allowing for the demands of the garrison, that did not, to him, seem a practical proposition.

The declaration of a 200-mile zone, already adopted worldwide by most fishing nations, involves no great legal problem. All that is required is a proclamation by the Falkland Islands' Government, followed *by legislation.*

The snag is that under present circumstances, permission for the proclamation is needed from the British Secretary of State, and it has not been forthcoming.

Asked the question "why not?" in view of the islanders' expressed wish for a 200-mile limit, which would at least bring them licence fees from foreign factory ships, plus the chance to preserve stocks, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office is reticent.

All its spokesman will say is that the matter is "under active consideration". It has been that way for some time. Pressed further, the spokesman referred to the statement by Mr Cranley Onslow in the Commons on December 22, 1982. In that, the Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs claimed that the main problem was the cost of establishing a policing arrangement.

He did not wish to see destroyers and frigates deflected from their primary role of maintaining an exclusion zone around the islands.

Mr Onslow assured the House that: "We shall continue to study this question".

There are problems in harvesting the Falklands fish, one of which, though academic at present, is that Argentina has already claimed a 200-mile zone around the islands, as it has around its own coast 478 miles away.

More serious difficulties arise because hake keeps less well than cod, and supplies of blue whiting are more readily available in the Western Approaches, and the Falklands lack any fish processing plant. The last point is another of those still under consideration

No direct British participation in the Falklands fishing industry appears to be envisaged. Britain's fleet is equipped for closer fishing grounds, and heavy capital investment would be needed for effective exploitation. A trial scheme mooted by Lord Shacketon does not appear to have aroused interest.

Mr David Taylor, the new chief executive of the Falklands, is due to take up his post on Tuesday. The vexed question of fishing limits is expected to be one of his main priorities.

Sale room

Sir Sidney Nolan buys his house contents

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Sir Sidney Nolan, the Australian painter, was a busy purchaser yesterday as Sotheby's auctioned off the contents of a Hertfordshire country house called "The Rodd", near Presteigne, for the very good reason that he has just bought it. The house had been the home of the late Lord and Lady Rennell of Rodd.

Sir Sidney bought a four-poster bed which combines the best of both worlds with eighteenth century posts and a modern sprung mattress, at £1,540 (estimate £600-£800).

He bought a set of 14 George III mahogany dining chairs at £11,550 (estimate £3,000-£4,000) and the contemporary mahogany dining table to go with them, with two "D" ends and three leaves, at £1,265 (estimate £2,000-£3,000).

He also invested in big bookcases, spending £8,800 (estimate £2,500-£4,000) on a golden breakfront library bookcase of about 1800. The sale totalled £176,826 with 3 per cent left unsold.

In London, Sotheby's completed their series of four sales of nineteenth century paintings that has made £2,203,894 during three days. The sales of oil paintings averaged about 28 per cent unsold and the watercolour sale contributed £174,779 to the total with only 20 per cent unsold. Yesterday's top price of £14,900 (estimate £10,000-£15,000) was paid for a charming watercolour by the Munich artist Wilhelm von Cobell of soldiers on campaign chatting to a farmer in his cart. It dates from about 1795.

Back pain test for first comparison of orthodox and alternative medicine

By Clive Cookson

A full scientific comparison between conventional and alternative medicine may follow a feasibility study under way at a Medical Research Council unit. It would be Britain's first scientific trial of alternative practice against orthodox medicine, according to a council spokesman.

The subject chosen is back pain, one of the most widespread health problems, which is estimated to lose Britain 13 million working days a year, or £1,000m worth of industrial production.

The MRC Epidemiology and Medical Care Unit at Northwick Park Hospital, Middlesex, has almost completed a study to prepare for the proposed national trial, which would involve hundreds of back patients at centres throughout the country. It might start two years from now.

In the preliminary study, 50 patients are being allocated at random either to Northwick Park's outpatient department for conventional hospital treatment or to a practice run by three members of the British Chiropractors' Association in Harrow. Chiropractice involves manipulation of the spine by fully trained staff who are not normally medically qualified.

Patients have been recruited for the study both from hospital's outpatient department and from chiropractors. "Both types of patient are in general willing to be randomly allocated to one or the other for treatment," Dr Tom Meade, director of the MRC unit, said.

He had written in advance to about 100 general practitioners in the Harrow area, and none objected. During the study a GP withheld consent in one case.

The efficacy of treatment is being measured by the patients' own assessment of their symptoms over a six week period. It is not clear that any objective test, such as straight leg raising, gives adequate and repeatable results.

Although the results of the preliminary study will not be known until early next year, Dr Meade feels sufficiently encouraged to have written to about 35 NHS consultants (mainly orthopaedic surgeons) in other parts of the country where chiropractors want to take part in a full-scale national comparison. So far nearly all have expressed interest.

"The British Chiropractic Association were very willing to take part in a randomized control trial, unlike some other alternative practitioners," Dr Meade said.

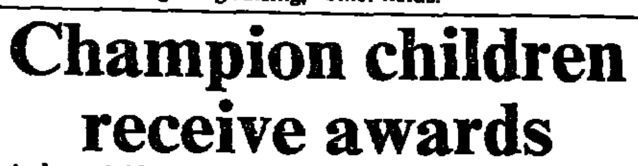
He warns against judging alternative medicine by anecdotal evidence or by trials without random allocation or with too few patients. The MRC assessment of chiropractic could be a model for future comparisons between alternative and orthodox medicine in other fields.

Chairman of BBC back after illness

Mr Stuart Young, aged 49, will perform his first public engagment as chairman of the BBC on Monday after a serious illness, which at one time led to speculation that he might be forced to give up the job he took over in August.

A BBC aide at Broadcasting House said last night: "Mr Young was very ill but he is now firmly back in his seat with a good deal of vigor".

The illness, which led to an operation, has been an open secret within the broadcasting world for several weeks. Sir William Rees-Mogg, Mr Young's deputy, has been taking his place during his absence.



Champion children receive awards

Andrew Atkinson, aged 13 has no problem playing snooker, his favourite game: "I just take off my right arm and rest the cue on my stump", he says. Despite having no legs and an artificial arm, he is snooker champion of his school, Bridge House, in Leeds.

Yesterday he was one of 12 "champion children" who received an award from Princess Margaret at a ceremony organized by Dr Barnardo's in London.

Richard Howard, aged 15, from Sheffield, won an award for his bravery in rescuing a widow aged 87 from her blazing kitchen.

The winning children, picked from 500 nominations and 28 finalists, were aged between eight and 16

Christopher Joby, aged 16, from Norwich, won the award as junior mastermind.

Among the winners in the triumph over adversity category, was Marian Dorow, aged 14, from Oprington, Kent, Andrew Hodge, aged 13, from Ainsdale, Lancashire, David Foster, aged 10, from Newbury, Berkshire, and Matthew Learoyd, aged 10, from Deal, Kent.



Gala time: Elizabeth Emanuel fitting Nicola Davies in one of the costumes she designed for the 30 Royal Ballet School students, aged 10 to 18, who take part in the Amnesty International gala concert on Sunday at the Theatre Royal, London.

(Photograph: Chris Harris).

The cost of cultural heritage

Royal Opera House to tighten its belt

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The Royal Opera House will commit itself to making cost savings of £600,000 a year if the Government rescues it from its present financial predicament, Sir Claus Moser, chairman of the board of directors, said yesterday.

The savings were outlined in the Priestley report commissioned by the Government to look into the workings of Covent Garden and the Royal Shakespeare Company.

Yesterday's indication from the company that it was willing to accept most of Priestley's recommendations paves the way for the Government to produce new funds to wipe out its debts.

The company had a deficit of more than £1m last year, reduced to £220,000 by bringing forward Arts Council Guarantees and a supplementary grant of £450,000, and is heading for losses of £1.4m in the present financial year.

Sir Claus said that if the Government came up with psoper funding for the organization it would "balance the books".

"We have undertaken to try to find the savings asked for from 1986," he added. Although the company would attempt to negotiate new agreements with the theatrical unions, the main saving would come from introducing a new management structure.

The company was reluctant to enter into details of the negotiations it wanted to press with its unions. The Priestley report had disclosed that stage technicians and electricians earned a basic guaranteed weekly wage of about £135 which, with overtime, was frequently increased to more than £235 and occasionally to between £500 and £550.

One aspect of the report which Covent Garden rejected, however, was the suggestion that its finances could be improved by running a more popular diet of material.

Sir John Tooley, the company's director general, said that there was no indication that the public would respond to more performances of the same opera, or that the policy would bring in additional revenues. Sir Claus said that such a policy would be "artistic death" to the house.

Fund which helped save Belton needs £10m

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

The National Heritage Memorial Fund, which two months ago agreed to provide £8m to help save Belton House, the outstanding Restoration stately home in Lincolnshire, for the nation, needs £10m in its next annual grant from the Government to continue its work effectively, Lord Charteris, chairman of the fund, said yesterday.

The fund, set up in 1980, has received an annual grant of £3m for the last three years.

Apart from Belton, one of the fund's main achievements has been to provide £2m for the National Trust for the purchase of Studley Royal, North Yorkshire.

National Heritage Memorial Fund. Annual Report 1982-83. Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1p 3BL. £2.50.

Stephens bail plea adjourned

Sue Stephens, aged 26, the former girl friend of David Martin, the convicted gunman, had her High Court plea for bail and leave to appeal against a six months sentence adjourned yesterday.

Applications by Lester Purdy, aged 30, and Peter Enter, aged 26, were also adjourned. They were each jailed on Monday for nine months after being found guilty with Stephens of handling stolen goods for the benefit of Martin.

Safe aerosol

An aerosol propelled by compressed air rather than liquefied gas, which has been developed in Switzerland and is neither harmful to the environment nor inflammable, was launched in London yesterday.

Fitness checks

The Perkins diesel engine company has bought an electocardiogram and is offering heart checks and advice to its 6,000 staff at Peterborough, Cambs, to ensure that they are fit for work.

Forest protest

Nearly 1,000 signatures have been collected Ashdown Preservation Society against oil drilling in the East Sussex forest and they will be presented at a public meeting on December 7.

Jubilee plaque

A plaque commemorating the Queen's Silver Jubilee is to be unveiled at Highnam, near Gloucester, tomorrow – six years late.

Cabin crew may test jet lag pill

By Thomson Prentice

A hormone which may counteract the effects of jet lag, the bane of long-distance air travellers, may be offered to volunteers among British Airways staff.

The move is dependent on the Committee on Safety of Medicines granting permission to researchers to carry out clinical tests on the hormone, melatonin. Experiments in Britain and Australia have induced sheep to conceive in theri non-breeding season by "fooling" them that the days were shortening.

The hormone in pill form has been tried among researchers during long flights, and Dr Frank Preston, medical director of British Airways, acknowledged yesterday that he was "cautiously interested" in asking for cabin crew volunteers

But both he and Dr Josephine Arendt, a leading melatonin researcher at Surrey University, emphasized that there have been no controlled tests on the effects of the hormone on humans.

Dr Arendt said: "A number of people including myself have tried melatonin on long flights and have not suffered jet lag, but these results are scientifically useless. To substantiate its effectiveness, it would be necessary to conduct control trials."

She added: "I believe melatonin is potentially useful in organizing daily rhythm disturbances, of which jet lag is one example".

Melatonin is relesased from the brain's pineal gland during darkness.

Doctor 'had three mistresses'

A general practioner took a series of three mistresses who were patients at his practice in Reading, Berkshire, the General Medical Council disciplinary committee was told yesterday.

His pursuits caused the break-up of his two marriages and destroyed the marriage of his part-time receptionist, his third lover, the committee was told.

Dr David Corden, of Wilderness Road, Earley, was appearing before the committee accused of serious professional misconduct. According to the allegation he abused his professional position "in order to form or pursue emotional or sexual relationships" with the women.

The committee was told that at one point an answering machine in the doctor's house had to include his then mistress's telephone number because he spent a great deal of time at her home.

On another occasion Dr Corden is said to have left a note saying: "Who loves you like it is going out of fashion?"

At the time the receptionist, Mrs Cherie Fox, aged 28, was paying weekly visits to a marriage guidance counsellor to discuss her own marriage. Mrs Fox later left her husband and moved in with Dr Corden, the committee was told.

Mr Andrew Muir, for the GMC, said that when still a maried man in 1974 Dr Corden made "sexual advances" to a patient, Mrs Valerie Goodhew, when he later married.

In 1977 the new Mrs Corden became suspicious that her husband was having an affair with another patient, Mrs Jean Winchester. "This resulted in the answering phone in the family hame having to have Mrs Winchester's number on it. It caused great embarrassment to Mrs Corden".

In 1982 the Cordens got divorced on the grounds of adultery and their house in Wilderness Road was split into two parts, Mr Muir said.

He told the committee that in February this year Mr Michael Fox discovered that his wife was having an affair with Dr Corden after spotting the note left on his wife's car.

"Mrs Fox moved out of the matrimonial home and went to live with Dr Corden in his part of the house", Mr Muir said.

The hearing continues.





Bearing arms: Two of a set of four stamps to be issued on January 17 to mark the 500th anniversary of the College of Arms which received its charter from Richard III in 1484.

The 16p stamp (left), shows the arms of the college and the 20½p the arms of Richard III. The arms of Earl Marshal are on the 28p stamp and those of the City of London are on the 31p stamp. All were designed by Mr Jeffery Matthews of Beckenham, Kent.

Hovercraft backup for Severn Bridge

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

Hoverspeed, the cross-channel operator, is prepared to put two 270-seat hovercraft on the Severn next spring to provide a backup service for the suspect Severn Bridge. Talks are to take place next week between the Welsh authorities and Hoverspeed, which is jointly owned by British Rail and the Brostrom Group, of Sweden.

The two craft, the smallest of Hoverspeed's six-craft fleet on the Channel, would operate a 15-minute service, taking five minutes to cross, at fares to be determined by the Government. They would link two points on the river bank as close as possible to the bridge and the M4.

Since structural doubts arose over the bridge because of heavier than predicted traffic levels, there has been deep concern in Wales over the reliability of its main southern link with England.

Last week, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, announced new restrictions on the bridge to alleviate the danger of overloading, including possible closure of the bridge in high wind or because of traffic jams. If the bridge is closed, traffic faces a 50-mile diversion.

Each hovercraft would be able to carry up to 35 cars, or a combination of coaches and cars, up to a total of 3,500 a day, a tenth of the number crossing the bridge.

At a total cost of £4m to £5m a year the economic fare would be about £4 a car, compared with a 20p bridge toll, soon to be raised to 50p if a public inquiry agrees.

It would be up to the Government to subsidize the hovercraft fare. "We have been evaluating the service and there are no firm proposals", the Department of Transport said yesterday.

Mr John Cumberland, managing director of Hoverspeed said: "The hovercraft's amphibious qualities mean that it would not suffer the high tide range in the Severn, and little investment in shore installations would be needed."

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Lawson repeats determination to cut taxes

THE ECONOMY

Taxation would be lower at the end of this Parliament than it was at present, Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, declared during Commons questions. Twice during exchanges about the recovery of the domestic economy, Mr Lawson said the Government was determined to reduce taxation "during the lifetime of this Parliament".

He stated that over the two years from the first half of 1981 to the first half of 1983 the economy had grown by 5 per cent. With world trade declining over this period, growth had been entirely due to a sharp recovery in domestic demand.

Fixed investment over the same period had risen by 7 per cent and for 1984 the Government expected an increase of 4 per cent compared with a growth in the economy as a whole of 3 per cent.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, (South Thanet) said that what was needed to keep domestic demand fuelled was lower taxation. Any talk, he said, of increased taxation would act like frost on a tender plant, killing off the vitally needed growth in the economy.

Mr Lawson: What we need most of all is sound fiscal and monetary policy which will lead to downward pressure on interest rates and continued low, and of possible lower, inflation.

It is lower inflation that has caused the recovery we have seen so far. Of course the Government is determined to bring down taxation in the lifetime of this Parliament.

Mr Michael Brown (Brigg and Cleethorpes, C): Can he specify that by the end of this Parliament the net burden of taxation will be lower than at the present time.

Mr Lawson: It is the Government's firm intention that taxation will be reduced during the lifetime of this Parliament. Taxation will be lower at the end of this Parliament than at the present time.

Mr Robert Sheldon (Ashton-under-Lyne, Lab): It is clear that the extra spending we are seeing has resulted from the removal of restrictions on hire purchase and also the reduction in the savings ratio. How long does he expect this effect to continue?

Mr Lawson: He is wrong in attributing any great impetus, although it has some effect, to the abolition of hire purchase control. A much bigger cause has been the decline in the savings ratios.

With inflation going down, people have to save less in order to make sure the bvalue of the saings is ensured. That is one of the direct ways that falling inflation leads to recovery.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C): If recovery is to be maintained, it is essential that British manufacturing increases its share of the home economy.

Mr Lawson: He is right. The fortunes of the economy as a whole depend critically upon British industry being efficient in the home market and overseas.

Dr Oonagh McDonald, an Opposition spokesman on economic and Treasury affairs: How is Mr Lawson going to compensate for the drop in domestic demand caused next April by changes in the housing benefit? This could lead to a drop of 9.6 per cent in the take-home pay of a single person earning £90 a week and 9.3 per cent for a married man with two children under 17 earning £120 a week.

Mr Lawson: I am confident there will be further growth in the economy next year. The Industry Act forecast of 3 per cent takes full account of the change in housing benefit. Even as a result of the change some 6.5 million households in the land will be taking advantage of the housing benefit scheme.

● The action of the Ford workers in rejecting a management pay offer of 7.5 per cent was likely to damage only themselves and their families Mr Lawson, the Chancellor, said during other exchanges.

Mr Andrew MacKay (Berkshire East, C), told in an answer that the retail price index for the 12 months to October 1983 had increased by 5 per cent, asked: Would he agree the best way of protecting the interests of pensioners would be for the Government to continue vigorously to bring about measures which will fight inflation and this is likely to be harmed by irresponsible action by unions like Fords in turning down the generous pay offer of 7.5 per cent?

Mr Lawson: I suspect that the activities of the workers at Fords are capable in the long run and maybe even in the short run, of damaging only themselves and their families.

The Government is determined to continue to keep inflation down by the fiscal and monetary policies it is pursuing which are the best possible social service we can render to the old age pensioners.

Higher exports expected next year

The Government forecast a GDP growth of around 3 per cent between 1982 and 1983, and a similar growth rate was envisaged in 1984, Mr Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said during other Commons questions.

Mr Anthony Nelson (Chichester, C) said that an essential precondition for higher rates of economic growth and one ignored by the National Institute for Economic and Social Research was much lower levels of real interest rates.

Given the Treasury is predicting a fall in the level of inflation next year (he went on) can we look forward to significantly lower levels of interest rates?

Mr Lawson: I share the importance



Mackay: Irresponsible Ford unions

he attaches to the level of interest rates. Indeed, it is one reason why we are determined to keep PSBR firmly under control and as a declining proportion of GDP. That is the only sure way of bringing interest rates down.

Mr John Maxton (Glasgow, Cathcart, Lab): An export-led recovery demands that civil engineering and engineering companies who are major exporters, require a large amount of public investment in the home economy, providing them with the home base they must have in order to compete successfully in foreign markets.

Mr Lawson: British civil engineering companies have in the past few years done particularly well in export markets. What is important to them is the strength of the world recovery that is coming through quite strongly.

One reason we look for a much better performance in exports next year is because world trade will rise be about 5 per cent while this year there was a fall of about 1 per cent.

Later, **Mr Nicholas Budgen** (Wolverhampton South West, C) asked: Is not the Government's most urgent priority to find room to reduce taxation upon those who earn less than the average wage?

Mr Peter Rees, Chief Secretary to the Treasury: I myself have made it clear, as has the Chancellor, that when he finds himseof in a position to reduce direct taxation the increase in thresholds of income tax should have our highest priority.

Mr Barney Hayhoe, Minister of State, Treasury, said the Government gave a high priority to an increase in tax thresholds.

Treasury to list tax-free subscriptions

The Inland Revenue is to publish an 80-page document soon listing the bodies approved under section 192 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 for the purpose of deduction from income of fees, contributions or annual subscriptions paid to such bodies.

Mr Peter Rees, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, announced the impending publication in reply to **Mr Michael Stern** (Bristol, North-West, C) who asked for publication to be expedited because the present system meant that the taxpayer had no way of having certainty in calculating his tax bill.

Mr Rees said that Mr Stern's concern was shared by the Institute of Chartered Accountants. The administrative implications of the document were not as simple as MPs might imagine.

Absent leaders enable deputies to have a go

QUESTIONS

Mr John Biffen, Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House of Commons was questioned about the degree of supervision being exercised by the Prime Minister, for whom he was deputising, over the speeches of her ministers while she was away at the Commonwealth Conference in New Delhi.

Mr Roy Hattersley, depty leader of the Labour Party, who was deputising for Mr Neil Kinnock, the Leader of the Party, absent in Brussels, asked during Prime Minister's question time, about the sophisticated satellite which, he said, according to a Number 10 briefing waws keeping her in touch with every nuance of Government policy.

Was it used (he asked) to clear the speech by Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy on Tuesday?

Mr Biffen: I am not clear who is the sophisticted satellite. I regard the term sophistication in relation to be as unnecessarily offensive from Mr Hattersely when be has the privilege of sneaking to the Dispatch Box in the absence of Mr Kinnock.

I am certain that in many quarters of the House there will be a widespread welcome for one remark above all others the Secretary of State made when he said: "The build-up of Soviet military power has grown worse and met with an inadequate western response."

He spoke with a voice which finds fewer and fewer echoes on Labour benches.

Mr Hattersley: I am sure that the plain man we know Mr Biffen be understands that there is a serious question about collective responsibility. Does each Cabinet minister speak for himself or does each Cabinet minister speak for the Government?

Mr Biffen: I have the disappointing advantage of having read the speech and it is utterly within the terms of collective responsibility, tightly drawn as they are for this administration.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Social Security (Age of Retirement) Bill, second reading.

Debate next Thursday on EEC budget

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Debate on the Royal Navy.

Tuesday: Debate on Scottish affairs.

Wednesday: Restrictive Trade Practices (Stock Exchange) Bill, remaining stages. Consideration of British Railways Bill.

Thursday: Debates on EEC budgetary proposals and on the CAP proposals.

Friday: Prescription and Limitation (Scotland) Bill, second reading.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Monday: Agricultural Holdings Bill, committee, second reading.

Tuesday: Inshore Fishing (Scotland) Bill and Tourism (Overseas Promotion) (Scotland) Bill second readings. Debate on changing trade patterns since Britain joined the EEC.

Wednesday: Debates on the nation's housing stock and on the arts. Amusement Machines Bill, second reading.

Thursday: Debates on the European social fund and on the dispute involving the Messenger Newspaper Group.

Sticking to policy disappoints critics

EXPENDITURE

The Government was not proposing to change its strategy, Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, declared in opening the Commons debate on the Autumn Statement he had delivered last week. He contended that the Government had kept its word despite all the talk of hidden manifestos and savage cuts.

He considered the sight of the Government sticking to its policy and its word had caused consternation in some quarters. Critics had been disappointed, he said, as they had been unable to accuse the Government of fudging the figures.

Mr Roy Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, maintained that every objective and independent survey in the country, every forecaster, was saying that the Chancellor was over-optimistic in his prediction for the economy. He felt the Chancellor had not the faintest idea in what direction the economy was moving.

Mr Lawson said the combination of steady growth and low inflation was something this country had not seen since the sixties. It was proof positive of the success of the Government's economic strategy.

It would be perverse (he said) to change that strategy and we are not proposing to do so. The Government's aim will be to continue to achieve sustainable non-inflationary growth.

The two essential elements of policy remained unchanged. The first was a sound medium-term financial strategy which would keep inflation moving down. It aimed progressively to cut the public sector borrowing as a proportion of total output and gradually to reduce monetary growth. The ultimate aim was price stability.

Second, wiwthin the essential framework of financial discipline, the Government aimed to incease incentives, to expose more of the economy to competition and remove obstacles to the operation of free markets. The Government would push ahead with the transfer of state-owned business to free enterprise and promote greater efficiency within a reduced public sector.

The Government had inherited grossly excessive borrowing and inflation and had to tackle them in a period of deepening recession. Since 1981 inflation had been falling steadily, down to 5 per cent from a peak of over 20 per cent. Interest rates were at their lowest for 5½ years. Output had been rising at about 2½ per cent a year since mid-1981 and was likely to rise by up to 3 per cent this year and next.

Unemployment remained too high, but all the signs were that it might be levelling out. The total employed labour force was estimated to have risen by 18,000 in the second quarter of this year, the first rise for nearly four years. Vacancies were up and short-time working was the lowest for four years, too. Overtime was picking up strongly. There had been lower pay settlements and higher productivity.

As for his statement last week that there might be a need for some small net increase in taxation next year, he wished to describe reasons for the changed prospect.

When the Treasury forecast was published at the time of the budget the PSBR outturn for last year, 1982-83, was expected to be about £7,500m, allowing for some shortfall between planned and actual public spending. In fact there had been a surge in public spending at the very end of the year and the outcome was closer to the overall planning figure so that the PSBR for 1982-83 actually turned out to be £1,500m higher than the figure published in the Red Book.

Any estimate of the extent to which departments would underspend must be highly uncertain, even near the end of the financial year.

It would now be only prudent to plan on this year's outturn, like last year's, coming much closer to the planning figure. That was the main reason, despite the measures announced on July 7 that he now expected this year's PSBR to be higher than was expected in March probably by £2,000m.

Many of these considerations applied to 1984-85, too. The Government had held to the planning total, of £126.4 billion, for 1984-85 which was published in the White Paper.

It was right to make no allowance for expenditure shortfall next year, in contrast to the £1,200m allowed for this year, and to keep the contingency reserve at £3,000m. This has (he said) disappointed out critics who hoped to be able to accuse us of fudging the figures.

Partly because of higher borrowing last year and this year, he also expected debt interest to be a little higher next year than was previously envisaged. Together, these two factors more than offset a small upward revision in forecast revenue last year. That was why, despite the improved growth prospect, the overall fiscal prospect had slightly deteriorated since the last budget.

On the prospects at the next budget, whatever decisions had to be taken next spring, he was confident that on present policies he would be able to reduce the level of taxation during the lifetime of this Parliament.

This (he said) is one of the Government's major objectives, for lower taxation increases the individual's freedom of choice and encourages enterprise.

Any Chancellor could reduce taxation in the short-term by putting borrowing back to the 1979

Higgins: Important to get investment up

level and make a £7,000m cut at a stroke, but the price of that would be rempant inflation, higher interest rates and still higher unemployment. The Government was not going down that road.

Public expenditure as a proportion of gross domestic product had steadily declined since 1981 and taxation had come down too. But he did not regard the reductions already made as entitling the Government to rest on its oars. There could be no disputing the fact that taxation at widely differing levels of income, was too high.

Ways had to be found of restoring to the man in the street the freedom to spend or save more of his earnings. The more wages and salaries were taxed, the less incentive there was to earn more, the bigger the millstone around the necks of the enterprising, and so the more destructive the brake upon industrial performance. The ultimate result would be worse prospects for growth and for new jobs.

Public expenditure had fallen for the last two years and would fall further next year. Government policy was resulting in a breaking out from the vicious circle of ever-higher spending leading to ever-higher taxation and an ever more sluggish and less responsive economy.

If the position could be held stable for the next three years then, with the economy steadily growing, there would be scope for further real reductions in the level of taxation.

The Government was sticking to its pledge at the Election when all public expenditure proposals had been set out. The Government had had to rein back in some areas, but there were always more attractive ways of spending money. Hard choices had to be made and the Government had been ready to make them.

It had been determined to maintain a firm grip on public expenditure when it became clear it was running ahead too fast. It would ensure that tight control was maintained. The contingency reserve for next year would have to cover both discretionary charges and all other contingencies including estimating charges.

The pattern of the past showed that expenditure had risen inexorably year by year. Th Government was determined to bring a halt to the creeping encroachment of the public sector and was looking for savings wherever they could be made by rooting out waste and inefficiency, and scrutinizing overspending. That was vital to the prosperity of the nation.

Only the Labour Party seemed unable to see the logic of the policy: it seemed the world was out of step with them.

There was concern about the balance between capital and current expenditure in the public sector. Fixed investment in the public sector, as defined in the national account, fell under Labour between 1974 and 1979 from 6.5 per cent of total national output, to 4.4 per cent. In 1981 it had fallen to 3.4 per cent and since then it had been broadly stable.

Figures were distorted by defence expenditure being classified as current but if this was included in the public sector then for 1978-79 and 1982-83, the total public sector capital spending, including nationalized industry investment, rose 38 per cent from £12,000m to £17,000m. If the 1982-83 figure was adjusted to take account of sales of special assets, including the sale of council houses, the figure would be £20,000m.

He invited Mr Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, to spell out his party's policies. He seemed to be in some puzzlement. In June Mr Hattersley had written in *The Times*: "Our economic policy was a net vote loser".

His own statement last Thursday was proof of the Government's frankness with the nation at the time of the election. On public expenditure it was constant on the figures in the White Paper and it had kept its word despite all the talk of hidden manifestos and savage cuts.

The sight of the Government sticking to its policy and sticking to its word had caused consternation in some quarters but the Government believed election pledges should not be taken lightly. Government policies were succeeding.

Mr Roy Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs (Birmingham, Sparkbrook, Lab) moved an amendment "that the Government's economic policy fails to plan or provide for reductions in the level of unemployment, accepts and accommodates a continuing decline in investment and stagnation in output and is based on the proven fallacy that a reduction in Government spending will, notwithstanding the hardship that such cuts cause, produce an automatic improvement in the economic prospects of this country".

He said the Chancellor's speech was in turn complacent and self-satisfied, in short exactly what one expected of it. In two particulars it had astounded him. It was extraordinary that the Chancellor could not bring himself to give one word on the looming balance of payments crisis, and he could only assume a further deterioration; and that the Chancellor had made such a defensive speech – not the speech of a man convinced of his own success.

The Chancellor wanted to divert attention from his broken promises. The abject and humiliating failure which the newspapers had reported was the failure of the entire Govrnment over 4½ years. How long did one have to wait for the pledges of 1979 to be redeemed?

Despite the braggadocio of the Chancellor's speech, manufacturing output had fallen in four years back to the level of the 1960s. No other administration since the war other than that in which the Chancellor served had ended a Parliament with total output lower than when it began.

Once, one had been told that tax cuts were certain and essential, but taxes under Mr Lawson's Government had gone up by £18,000m. The Chancellor had actually boasted about it in an article in *The Times* this morning.

Another example of broken promises was that as recently as last Thursday the Chancellor had spoken of the necessity of firm monetary policies. That turned out to be a PSBR which was almost £2,000m greater than the Government's targets.

Did Mr Lawson regard the £2,000m excess on the PSBR as a tragedy or as a matter of no consequence? Mr Lawson's PSBR failure demonstrated the absurdity of his own position. In his terms the £2,000m on that aggregate ought to be a tragedy; but that tragedy took place during 1983, a period which Mr Lawson described as a year of success.

Every objective and independent survey in the country, every forecaster, was saying that the Chancellor was over-optimistic in his prediction for the economy.

On the radio this morning stockbrokers were queuing up to argue whether Mr Lawson was wrong by mistake or wrong by malice.

Nobody believed his reference to "the need for some net increases in tax in next year's Budget" to be an objective forecast. He would describe it, in the most parliamentary sense, as a sleight of hand.

It was either an attempt to frighten some Conservative MPs who might press for public expenditure increases or it might be a crude attempt to create a bogus victory for the Chancellor next April.

Most likely, he said, is that the Chancellor has not got the faintest idea in what direction the economy is moving. I am afraid, because of the humiliation the Chancellor faces, he will be driven to new levels of political expendiency and economic irresponsibility.

We have no illusions about the Chancellor. He is the man who sold Britoil and Amersham with so little concern to the public interest.

We fear there is only one way in which the Chancellor can make substantial enough room in his Budget for tax cuts which will vindicate his election manifesto, and that is to sell off all the perhaps £4,000m of British Telecom's assets next year.

It was not consistent with the Victorian values they were told they should all share, to sell off assets to finance consumption. That was not how that corner shop in Grantham was able to grow and develop.

The present situation was not so much a vicious circle as an absurd merry-go-round, continuing to go round and round until the Chancellor disappeared up his own PSBR.

The Chancellor said last Sunday he expected a shift from public to private provision in the four major spending areas. Nothing could cause a more bitter battle that what must be inherent in that promise.

It was not simply a threat of limited public expenditure cuts. It was a proposal that the comprehensive public services on which a civilized country depended should be totally dismantled and destroyed.

They were not surprised as the Chancellor's economic prescription was not concerned with the nation's practical welfare. He had an almost total theoretical obsession with numbers concerning Government spending and borrowing. He seemed to believe these numbers were mystically related to economic success, while other criteria were brushed aside. The length of the dole queue was simply a residual figure at the end of his equation when his other objectives had been served.

In his speech today, the Chancellor had made a passing reference to



Sheldon: Lack of economic success

employment but said not a word about the prospects for reducing the total number of Britain's unemployed.

He would not tell them there would be a significant fall in unemployment because the Government did not contemplate, did not anticipate or forecast, was not working towards, and did not care about, a reduction in unemployment.

Despite all that, the Chancellor had the affrontery to call his policy a success. To call it a success, with unemployment running at the present rate, was not simply an indication of the insensitivity of the Chancellor and the failure of the policy, it was an indication of the differences in the standards between the Government and the Opposition.

Mr Terence Higgins (Worthing C) said that although interest rates were at their lowest for five and a half years, it was not true of the real rate of interest when taking account of the fall in inflation, and that might create investment problems.

They should monitor carefully the way things were developing between now and the Budget in the spring.

They must consider more and more the importance of getting investment up as against current expenditure in the public sector.

Mr Robert Sheldon (Ashton-under-Lyme, Lab) said that if things were on the mend and they were exiting from a four years' tunnel, why were they talking of tax increases rather than reductions?

The Chancellor and Treasury ministers should go to the regions and see what was happening. The establishment in economic terms was the City of London which was near, while manufacturing industry was remote. Industry was suffering from over-valued exchange rate, particularly as it applied to continential currencies.

Mr Richard Ryder (Mid-Norfolk C), in a maiden speech, said that whenever the Treasury produced a Green Paper or similar document, every Cabinet minister should be consulted fully and the parameters agreed because it served governments no better if these ministers were to be labelled purely as protectors of their departments than for them to be categorized as prisoners.

Mr Richard Wainwright (Colne Valley, L) said there had not been any reference to the suffering and deprivation and the under-use of national resources which could be involved in reaching the Chancellor's obsessive goal of total price stability.

The diligent maintenance of capital assets have been grossly neglected.

Sir Ian Gilmour (Chesham and American, C) said the Chancellor had been unfairly criticized for his Autumn Statement. A heavy attack upon public expenditure had never been conceivable and would not have reduced unemployment. But the absence of an accepted strategy for substantially reducing unemployment was still the weakest part of Government policy.

There could not be significant and sustained recovery until the Government's very tight fiscal structures were loosened.

The Chancellor had pointed out that in the last year there had been a welcome, if modest, rise in output, although not enough to reduce unemployment. However he was forced to consider the basis of his position.

If the economy (he said) were to grow at a rate of 2½ per cent to 3 per cent, ot just for one year but several years, and if it were to do so without fiscal stimulus and without a balance of payment constraint emerging, a good many people including me would have been wrong.

The past year had been encouraging. The figures showed that the expansion consisted largely of an increase in personal and Government consumption, but on the Treasury's own analysis that had occurred without much rise in real disposable income.

Dim-dip lights a possibility

The Government is considering introducing regulations to require dim-dip lighting devices to be fitted to all new motor vehicles, Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, said in a Commons written reply.

She said: The department has also recently circulated for comment new draft regulations to consolidate and simplify all the existing vehicle lighting requirements. Initial reaction has largely been favourable and we hope to be able to announce the introduction of the regulations early next year.

Youth training in Civil Service

Mr Barney Hayboe, Minister of State, Treasury, said in a written Commons answer that agreement had been reached with the Council of Civil Service Unions on a framework agreement for the introduction of the youth training scheme into the Civil Service. The steps necessary to implement the agreement were being put in hand.

Somerset House rooms to be opened to the public

HOUSE OF LORDS

The Somerset House Bill, presented for second reading in the House of Lords by **Lord Skelmersdale**, a Government spokesman, was a further demonstation of the Government's concern to preserve the nation's heritage, the minister said.





Houghton: Bill has undesirable potential

The Bill's purpose is to confer leasing powers on the Crown in respect of the Fine Rooms and other parts of Somerset House – a grade one listed building built in the eighteenth century – with a view to their use for artistic, cultural or other purposes.

Lord Skelmersdale said it would enable the Secretary of State for the environment to conserve and widen the public use and appreciation of a fine building which was an important element in Britain's heritage.

Lord Houghton of Sowerby (Lab) said tourists would pour into Somerset House if they knew that Oliver Cromwell lay in state and Inigo Jones lived and died there. It was a romantic place.

He asked for an express assurance that commercial lettings were in no sense contemplated under this Bill.

Lord Skelmersdale said he was unable to commit the Government to vast or any sums of money, but no doubt the Earl of Gowrie, Minister for the Arts, would do his best to help in the appeal. Already there had been promises of £500,000.

The Bill was read a second time.

Repatriation of prisoners

The Repatriation of Prisoners Bill, introduced by Lady Trumpington, a Government spokesman, was read a first time in the House of Lords.

It makes provision for "facilitating the transfer between the United Kingdom and places outside the British Isles of persons for the time being detained in prisons, hospitals and other institutions by virtue of orders made in the courts and the exercise by courts and tribunals of their criminal jurisdiction".

Another Government Bill, the Animal Health and Welfare Bill, introduced by Lord Elton, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, and a private member's Bill, the Straw and Stubble Burning Prohibition Bill, introduced by Lord Alport (C), were also read a first time.

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Record £62m drugs haul shows growth of illicit market in Britain

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Customs officers seized a record 195.5 kilos of heroin, much of it at Heathrow airport, in the financial year ended last April, it is disclosed in the annual report for 1982-83 published yesterday by Customs and Excise.

The seizures represent an increase of 88.5 per cent, on seizures of 104 kilos in 1981-82 which in turn were 178 per cent above figures for the previous year. The size of the seizures given in the latest report indicate yet again the increase in the domestic market in heroin.

The market is believed to have begun to develop at the end of the last decade. In 1978-79 customs seized a total of 61 kilos for both heroin and morphine shown in the latest report. In 1972-73 the seizures totalled 11.8 kilos.

Yesterday's report notes that over 80 per cent of all the heroin seized last year came from Pakistan which is part of a region of south-west Asia now often referred to as the Golden Crescent by international agencies because of the opium harvest.

Overall, customs discovered illicit drugs worth a total of £62m in street values, compared with a total value of £59m in 1981-82. Large seizures of cannabis continued as in previous years but the total found dropped from 22,920 kilos the previous year to 16,323 kilos.

Yesterday a customs spokesman said it was believed that the drop indicated that a number of successful operations had removed several smuggling groups which were big importers. However, the report notes that large quantities of cannabis are still being brought into Britain concealed in freight containers.

Apart from drugs customs officers seized 172,000 obscene or indecent items; 310 flick-knives, 2,500 pieces of radio equipment which broke Home Office rules for CB radio and 447 live animals, including two chimpanzees held under the endangered species legislation.

The report also points out the growth of tobacco smuggling from the Low Countries because of a wide price difference between that area and Britain in tobacco for hand-rolled cigarettes.

Seventy-fourth Report of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Customs and Excise for the year ended March 31, 1983. (Stationery Office, £7.55).

Consumers pay £28bn tax

The total revenue collected from Customs and Exercise activities in 1982-3 was £27,956m which represented an increase of 11 per cent on the previous year. Value added tax alone produced £13,815m and that was a 17 per cent rise. The increase came from greater consumer spending.

On the excise side the yield from tobacco was almost £3,500m. The drop in consumption almost offset 1982 budget increases, leaving only a 0.75 per cent increase in income from that source. Duty from alcohol fell by 2.5 per cent to £3,021m. At the same time the report shows an increase in the number of breweries from 245 to 273, addig that it shows the continued resurgence of the small brewery.

The largest increse in excise duties came from betting and gaming, which went by 18 per cent to £602m. Revenue was increased by higher charges and increased casino activity.

Customs duties yielded £1,028m. The increase of 7 per cent is attrubuted in the report to a fall in the exchange rate for sterling against other important currencies.

Customs and Excise receipts in 1982-3 represented 38 per cent of central government taxation revenue.

Police Bill concession from Hurd

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Labour MPs forced a concession from the Government yesterday over the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill.

In a sustained attack during the Bill's committee stage, they argued that a clause in it would give police new powers of entry to private property. When police wanted to search someone on it, private property would be treated as a public place, they said.



Mr Hurd: Will look again

Although an attempt to amend the clause was lost, Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Home Office, said that, since there was a sustained anxiety, "that is something we ought to look at again". He said that private property could become a public place if there was public access.

COST OF HOLIDAY LIVING INDEX
13 DESTINATIONS

ITEMS	PORTUGAL	MAJORCA	LANZAROTE	TENERIFE	SPAIN	MADEIRA	LAS PALMAS	CYPRUS	MALTA	MOROCCO	UK	FLORIDA	BARBADOS
	48.7	53.8	61.2	65.2	65.2	74.9	78.7	80.5	82.8	98.7	100.0	107.8	176.2
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Dinner for two	4.85	7.30	7.30	8.21	7.58	8.00	11.59	9.80	11.56	9.27	11.50	17.48	21.19
Wine	.99	.91	1.60	2.28	1.28	1.50	2.74	1.96	1.54	2.32	4.85	4.20	9.18
Cup of coffee	.10	.30	.23	.21	.32	.50	.34	.33	.40	.23	.50	.35	.53
Beer (½ litre)	.31	.88	.27	.41	.47	.50	.68	.65	.49	.65	.80	1.05	.70
Cup of tea	.12	.25	.18	.18	.32	.50	.34	.33	.32	.23	.45	.35	.53
Camera film	2.10	1.78	2.17	2.05	2.60	3.00	1.89	1.96	2.83	2.32	1.98	2.59	4.59
Soft drinks	.22	.23	.32	.23	.32	.50	.34	.52	.24	.28	.35	.70	.35
Sun cream	2.10	1.81	2.71	2.40	2.17	1.50	2.40	1.96	3.40	2.74	3.90	3.50	6.00
5 Post cards	1.18	.88	.73	.73	.82	1.20	.82	1.31	.97	.60	1.20	1.50	1.06
Car hire (per week)	56.26	59.09	59.09	59.09	60.69	76.76	59.09	77.78	59.47	129.87	91.00	82.23	168.82
Petrol (per gallon)	2.13	1.83	1.35	1.33	1.79	1.87	1.44	1.50	1.70	1.67	1.83	1.12	1.85
WEIGHTED TOTAL FOR ONE WEEK	£120	£133	£151	£161	£161	£185	£195	£200	£205	£244	£247	£267	£436

For those seeking winter sunshine, Thomas Cook have compiled this index comparing the prices of holiday expenses abroad with those in the UK. The week's total (bottom line) is based on dinner for two, a bottle of wine, two cups of coffee and tea, two beers and four soft drinks daily; two rolls of 24-print film, a bottle of suncream, five postcards (including postage), a week's car hire and 20 litres of petrol. Exchange rates are those for Nov 8. The top line shows totals expressed as percentages of the UK total; countries are in order of value for money.

Portugal is cheapest for holidays

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

Once the winter holidaymaker has arrived at a foreign destination the cost of living would be lowest in Portugal and highest in Barbados. Only there and in Florida would costs be higher than in Britain, with Majorca as well as Portugal virtually cutting living costs by half compared with Britain.

This emerges from a survey by Thomas Cook to produce an index comparing the levels of holiday expenses in 12 popular holiday destinations together with a comparison of British costs.

Although Portugal is so cheap there is a disincentive to drive too many miles by car: at £2.13 a gallon it has the most expensive petrol of all.

The week's totals in the index (bottom line) are based on these daily intakes: dinner for two, one bottle of wine, two cups of coffee and tea, two beers and four soft drinks.

Allowed for in the week are two rolls of 24-print film, a bottle of suncream, five postcards (including postage), a week's car hire and 20 litres of petrol. Exchange rates used are those operating on November 8.

On the top line the index is constructed with Britain representing 100 and the other countries as comparable percentages, thus indicating relative value for money for each country.

Chesterfield by-election

Benn factor remains the wild card

Mrs Gloria Havenhand would be absolutely delighted if Mr Wedgewood Benn become Labour's candidate for next year's parliamentary by-election at Chesterfield. It would, she added, be "absolutely fabulous".

Mrs Havenhand is chairman of Chesterfield Conservative Association and quotes with modest relish an opinion poll showing that one in four voters would not vote for Mr Benn. She has firm views on why this might be so. "He would be coming here merely to represent his own extreme left-wing views," she says. "He would be here for his own self-importance and not for Chesterfield and the people's views."

Few commentators would disagree with at least part of her analysis. Chesterfield is a town of profound moderation, in all things. A mere bus journey from left-wing bastions such as Bolsover (home of the Skinner clan), Clay Cross of immortal socialist memory, the "socialist republic of South Yorkshire;" the town has contrived to be perfectly happy for the past 19 years with an MP who personifies Labour moderation, Mr Eric Varley.

Concern more to conserve Chesterfield's environmental heritage, including a magnificent and historic market, than with national politics, the local Labour-led council is hardly to be found in the vanguard of "progressive" socialism.

Even its miners, eking out fairly comfortable lifestyles from the rich Derbyshire coalfield, proclaim a moderation tat belies the poplar view of collierymen

Not much of this information can be gleaned from the town's official Labour sources. The local party secretary, Mr Arthur Webber, would only say that 35 people are now seeking the nomination for Labour. Mr Benn has not been officially in touch with Mr Webber. He declined in the bluntest terms to give names or other information. However, a shortlist is to be drawn up on January 8 and a candidate selected on January 15.

It was left to the local secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers, Mr Peter Heathfield, to say that the names of former Labour MPs such as Mr Robert Cryer, Keighley, Mr Phillip Whitehead, Derby North, and Mr Alexander Lyons, York, had been mentioned to him as applicants.

Other clues came from a local bookmaker, Mr Brian Harrison. He will be offering odds of 8-1 on the Labour leader of neighbouring North East Derbyshire district council, Mr Clifford Fox. Mr Benn, if he made the shortlist, would be at 6-1. Another name mentioned by Mr Heathfield is that of the Chesterfield council leader, Mr William Flanagan.



Mr Benn: Opponents hoping for his candidature



Mr Varley: Representing all-round moderation

Mr Heathfield, occasionally cited as favouring Mr Benn, said: "He is the most important figure outside the parliamentary party. "You cannt disregard him, so that has to put him in with a chance."

Whether Mr Heathfield's members feel the same will be known on Monday when the decision on their nominee in announced. In the unlikely event of the miners favouring Mr Benn, it is also accepted that the NUM no longer has the same constituency clout it once had, thanks to pit closures.

The Benn factor is also very much in the minds of the Liberal/SDP. The local Liberal Association secretary, Mr Kenneth Eversleigh, says a Benn candidacy would cost Labour votes that would be transferred not the the Conservatives but to the Alliance candidate, Mr Max Payne. Mr Payne, aged 53, a lecturer at Sheffield Polytechnic, fought the June general election.

The Conservative candidate, to be chosen on December 8, will doubtless experience some backlash as a result of local redundancies in the engineering, coal, and steel industries.

General election: Varley, E G (Lab) 23,881; Bouln, N (C) 16,118; Payne, M (L/All) 9,706. Lab maj. 7,763.

Renault's newcomer out to take aerodynamic title

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Renault, France's state-controlled motor group, is preparing to challenge Europe's leading quality car makers with a new executive saloon, which it claims is the world's most aerodynamically efficient car.

More than £100m has been invested in the new R25, which goes into production at Renault's Sandouville plant near Le Havre in three weeks' time. It will be on sale in France from march and is expected to reach British customers by the summer.

The previous holder of the aerodynamic "blue ribbon" was the Audi 100 with a drag coefficient of .30 compared with the Renault 25's .28.

The R25 means much more to Renault than a replacement for its existing top range model, the aging Renault 30. It has been chosen to lead an extensive programme designed to improve quality throughout the group.

The largest operator training room in Europe has been built at Sandouville at a cost of £1.5m. It features a complete assembly line "school". Workmen are withdrawn from the adjoining Renault 18 line in groups of 140 for training.

Ford yesterday announced price cuts of about £450 on a number of Granada L models to boost flagging sales. But the electrically operated windows and central locking, which were standard fittings, will now be optional extras.

Motoring, page 29

Israel exchanges 4,500 guerrillas for six of its own soldiers

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Both sides in the Middle East conflict yesterday found cause for jubilation from the same event; the biggest, and, for Israel, most costly prisoner exchange it has ever negotiated with the PLO. Six young Israeli soldiers were exchanged for 4,500 Palestinian and Lebanese geurrillas – a ratio of one Israeli for every 750 Arabs.

Among the 1,100 Palestinians flown to Algiers in a fleet of three Air Force jumbo jets bearing the emblem of the Red Cross, were 98 Arabs convicted in the Israeli courts and serving life or other long sentences for serious terrorist crimes.

In addition to the track-suited guerrillas who left giving victory signs, singing national songs, vowing to return to the struggle and, in at least one case, spitting defiantly in the face of an Israeli policeman, the aircraft were also loaded with Palestinaian archive material seized by the Israeli Army during the siege of west Beirut.

The complex deal also involved the complete emptying of Ansar, the Israeli prison camp in southern Lebanon, which had housed 4,400 suspected terrorists, including the former Palestine Liberation Organization commander in Sidon, Mr Salah Taamari. He is regarded by Israeli intelligence as the most dangerous man captured during the Lebanon war.

A fleet of 120 red and white Israeli civilian buses was used to ferry the 3,300 Ansar detainees who chose to be released inside southern Lebanon to four assembly points, while many curfews were imposed and tanks rumbled through deserted roads. Those who opted for Algiers had their hands bound and were herded, blindfold, in crocodile formation on to giant helicopters and military transports which flew them to the waiting jumbos at Tel Aviv airport, which was under maximum security alert.

Many Israelis, soldiers, ministers and ordinary citizens alike, expressed apprehension at the risk which was being taken in releasing so many men and women regarded as bitter enemies of the state. But most I spoke to thought it worthwhile.

'The deal is seen as a boost for the flagging fortunes of Yassir Arafat'

Although the patiently negotiated deal, which involved more than 100 meetings in Geneva alone, was seen as a boost for the flagging fortunes of Mr Yassir Arafat, the hard-pressed PLO chairman – whose supporters form the bulk of those Palestinians set free – Mr Moshe Arens, the Defence Minister, denied that the heavy price paid by Israel was a sign of weakness.

Speaking after emotional scenes of reuinion between the six Isaelis and their families had been broadcast live on television, Mr Arens said: "I see it as a strength and a source of pride that we have his concern for our soldiers who fall prisoner in battle". He said there were no political implications in such an exchange.

Until the outbreak of vicious fighting between pro- and anti-Arafat forces around Tripoli, the Israelis had been hoping to secure a total package which also would have involved the Israeli prisoners being held by Mr Ahmed Jibril's Popular Front for the Liberalization of Palestine – General Command. Until yesterday, Israel thought that only two of its men were involved, but now it is believed that a third may be a prisoner.

The decisive factor for the switch to seeking the release only of those in the hands of PLO loyalists, came at the beginning of this month, when it was feared their lives were in extreme danger and Mr Arafat's men were unable to guarantee their long term safety.

Mr Arens flatly denied that Mr Arafat's future had been linked to the deal hammered out at Geneva, in the talks which took place indirectly via the Red Cross.

Mr Shmuel Tamir, the former Minister of Justice who headed the Israeli negotiators, expressed hope that the Israelis being held by Mr Jibril could still be recovered, as part of a deal involving the 300 Syrian prisoners Israel captured during the Lebanon war.

A new round of talks is being urgently sought along these lines.

The handover, which had originally been scheduled to take place last week, was greeted with visible public relief throughout Israel, little time being given during the initial euphoria of public questioning about how it may have further eroded the already limited gains of the Lebanon war.



Welcome home: Danny Gilboa, one of six Israeli prisoners released by the PLO, is greeted by a young relative in Tel Aviv yesterday.

Election of Speaker Ankara's first test

From Rasit Gurdilek, Ankara

After 38 months of military rule, Turkey yesterday took the final step towards the restoration of democracy - or transition to democracy, as the outgoing military regime prefers to call it – with the opening of the seventeenth civilian Parliament in the republic's 60-year history.

The newly elected deputies listened as the oldest member, chairing the session, paid tribute on their behalf to the armed forces "for intervening just in time to save the country from chaos" and preparing the ground for the perpetuation of democracy.

"We should never forget our dept of gratitude to the armed forces, "Mr Fahri Ozdilek said. He urged his colleagues to set an example to the public "by their solemnity, mutual respect and tolerance in relations with each other."

Earlier Mr Bulend Ulusu had resigned as Prime Minister after an hour's meeting with President Kenan Evren. Mr Ulusu said the resignation of his Government had been accepted, and he had been asked to stay on until a new government took office.

Only three parties, those allowed to contest the general election 18 days ago, are represented in the 400-seat, single-chamber Grand National Assembly which will have a five-year term. The conservative Motherland Party of Mr Turgut Ozal has a safe majority with 211 seats. The Opposition is made up of the centre-left Populist Party, with 117 seats, and the right-centre Nationalist Democracy Party which has disappointed its military backers by winning only 71 seats. One seat will remain empty because of an earlier veto on a Motherland candidate by the ruling National Security".

The inaugural session was only ceremonial and after the deputies took their oaths the Parliament went into a 10 day recess to allow the nomination of candidates for the post of Speaker. The Speaker's election threatens to develop into the legislature's first crisis.

The military regime is known to be anxious to have Mr Ulusu elected speaker, not only to assuage its hurt pride over the defeat of the favoured Nationalist Democracy Party, but also to have a trusted figure mending over the untested civilians to safeguard its achievements. If elected, Mr Ulusu, a retired admiral, will deputize for President Evren when he is out of the country.

At first his election looked assured. President Evren received the party leaders after the election and reportedly obtained their acquiescence. But Mr Ulusu and three Government ministers who were all elected as Nationalist Democracy Party members refused to join the party, asserting their independence. The party leadership publicly deplored their action and is now said to be having second thoughts on Mr Ulusu's candidacy.

However, the Motherland Party, trying to cultivate a warmer relationship with the President who had openly opposed Mr Ozal on the eve of the poll, is said to be determined to uphold Mr Ulusu's candidacy even if he rejects offers to join the party. A recent series of price rises relieved Mr Ozal from an unpleasant task and speculation was rife that this service was rendered on the understanding that Mr Ulusu would be the Motherland candidate.

Only after the election of the Speaker will the National Security Council be officially dissolved. Its members will be retired from the command of the armed services to become members of a Presidential Council to assist President Evren in the exercise of his sweeping powers for six more years. The appointed Consultative Assembly, the 160-strong organ which performed quasi-parliamentary functions under the military regime, will also end its legal existence then.

Babies were buried near rubbish pile

Paris (AP) – A farmer said to be "slow-witted" and his wife were held yesterday in southern France on charges of killing nine of their new-born children.

The infanticide allegations against Jean-Pierre Leymarie, aged 44, a farmer, and his wife Rolande, aged 31, are said to be among the worst on record.

The couple live on a 20-acre farm in St-Bonnet-La-Riviere, near Brive, 255 miles south of Paris. They have two other children – a daughter of 12 and a son of 10, who according to neighbours appear well-raised and loved.

On Monday, officials discovered the first remains of the couple's other children buried in the farm courtyard. By Wednesday night, the remains of eight other babies, including a set of twins, had been found buried a few inches deep near a rubbish pile by the farmhouse.

The couple are said by the police to have admitted killing the nine babies by letting them bleed to death through untied umbilical cords.

Salvadorean rebels reject election

From John Carlin, San Salvador

"This is no time for words. The time now is for fighting", a Salvadorean rebel leader said in response to the official announcement that presidential elections would be held in El Salvador on March 25.

Setting the election date will inject fresh life into a stagnant political process but is unlikely to have any positive effect on the country's most agonizing problem, the stalemated four-year civil war.

The Constituent Assembly, or parliament, which announced the elections, has become so bogged down in legislative minutiae that there has been no visible political direction in recent months in El Salvador, prompting much speculation lately of a coup by palpably impatient military officers.

The election date should check this threat and please President Reagan who, in the face of accusations of human rights abuses by government forces, is finding it increasingly difficult to persuade Congress to approve badly-needed injections of military aid to El Salvador.

Elections, however, have long been the chief stumbling block to a negotiated solution to the country's problems. The guerrillas have said they will fight until they are guaranteed power-sharing in a provisional government prior to elections. Both Washington and the Salvadorean Government are adamant that "the rebels must not be allowed to shoot their way into power".

The left-wing rebels believe that elections will merely perpetuate a long-standing political system where right-wing military officers hold the key to power.

The powerful far right party, Arena, the National Republican Alliance, which opposes political reform of any kind, is almost certain to field as its presidential candidate, Major Roberto D'Aubuisson, who has repeatedly been linked with El Salvador's notorious death squads.

FBI fails to find source of leak

From Steven Weisman, *The New York Times*, Washington

An investigation ordered by President Reagan has failed after two months to find out who disclosed information to news organizations in September about US military options in Lebanon.

Several Administration officials doubted whether the FBI's investigation, which created tensions and suspicions at the White House, would uncover the sources of the information. But they believe that the inquiry would at least warn people in the Administration against giving out classified material.

The investigation was the most wide-ranging attempt by Mr Reagan to clamp down on unauthorized leaks to the news media.

FBI agents had questioned Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, Mr William Casey, the Director of Central Intelligence, Mr James Baker, the White House Chief of Staff, and others.

One official, remarking that it was extraordinary for the FBI to interview such senior officials, emphasized that the investigation was criminal, not civil, in nature and therefore all the more explosive. He would not discuss what criminal violations might have taken place.

Several officials deplored the inquiry. Another said he was unsure of its extent but given the thinking at the White House it was entirely possible that there were wiretaps authorized for both Administration aides and journalists.

Stowaways cast into sea

From Susan MacDonald, Dakar, Senegal

One Gambian died and two were rescued after the captain of a ship on which they had stowed away threw them overboard, according to reports from the Gambian capital, Banjul.

The three are said to have stowed away on a Liberian-registered ship, the Bayzille, out of Banjul.

When they were discovered off the Sierra Leone coast the captain ordered a makeshift raft made out of two oil drums and planks. One stowaway who resisted was stabbed by the crew, then lashed to the raft and lowered over the side, to die a few hours later. The other two were thrown into the sea with life jackets on.



In the Lombard RAC Rally, the Audi Quattro was 21 minutes ahead of the competition. Motoring journalists said it was years ahead.



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"The Audi Rally Quattro stunned the opposition... the car's traction is shattering."
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MARTIN HOLMES. MOTOR. 19.2.83.

"It re-writes the motoring rule books."
MEL NICHOLS. CAR MAGAZINE.

"It's a little more than two years since the Audi Quattro appeared and the shock waves are still reverberating through the industry."
WHAT CAR? May '83.

"... the permanent four wheel drive Quattro knows no peers."
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"Getting back into an ordinary car is like stepping back into the past."
GORDON WILKINS. AUTOCAR. 8.3.80.







Winners of the Lombard RAC Rally 1981, 1982, 1983.
Hannu Mikkola in an Audi Quattro has become the World Rally Champion 1983.

The missiles debate

America believes talks will resume

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The Reagan Administration yesterday continued to express confidence that the Soviet Union would eventually agree to resume talks on reducing medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe, despite its decision on Wednesday to break off the Geneva negotiations. However, US officials admitted they had no idea when a resumption would take place or in what forum.

There was considerable speculation that Moscow may propose merging the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Force (IMF) talks with the Strategic Arms Reductions Talks (START) which are still continuing in Geneva.

The US is not in favour of merging the two rounds of negotiations as it feels this would complicate things. However, it has not ruled out such a possibility if this is seen as the only way of getting the medium-range missile talks going again.

US officials now seem to have abandoned their initial optimism that the Soviet Union might try to resume talks as early as January. It is now expected that Moscow will delay a return to the negotiating table until it sees how European public opinion reacts to the breakdown and the deployment of the first 41 Pershing-2 and cruise missiles in West Germany, Britain and Italy at the end of this year.

Additional US missiles are to be deployed during 1984, including Belgium and the Netherlands where Government support for the new weapons is less pronounced than in the first three basing countries.

However, it is pointed out that the Soviet Union cannot afford to wait too long before returning to negotiations because of the steady build-up of Pershings and cruises planned for th next few years. Altogether the United States is to deploy 572 of the new missiles in Western Europe between now and 1986 if no agreement is reached with the Soviet Union before then.

Concern that European public opinion may turn against the US now that deployment is going ahead and the talking has stopped has set off a concerted campaign by American officials to heap blame on Moscow for the breakdown of the Geneva negotiations.

Summit concentrates on French mediation role

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

The role France could play in urgent Western efforts to bring the Russians back to the negotiating table was the cental point in talks that began here yesterday between President Francois Mitterrand and Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany.

The French President arrived yesterday for regular consultations which are seen here as being of particular importance in coordinating Western defence policy and in preparing for the arduous European Community summit meeting in Athens next month.

Bonn has already announced its support for President Mitterrand's recent offer to mediate after the Soviet walkout at Geneva. Yesterday the two defence ministers, Herr Manfred Worner and M Charles Hernu, began talks on the deployment of Pershing-2 here, which began on Wednesday, as well as on France's declared intention of strengthening its military presence in West Germany.

President Mitterrand strongly supported the Chancellor's determination on deployment and on several occasions emphasized the need for the new missiles

Kremlin blames US and predicts new arms race

From Richard Owen, Moscow

"When Caesar crossed the Rubicon in 49BC, he was heading for victory," one Western diplomat said yesterday. "The Russians seem to have forgotten that."

Soviet officials and Western diplomats regard the breakdown of the Geneva talks on medium-range missiles as a watershed in East-West relations. Tass said that by voting to accept Pershing-2 the Bundestag had crossed the Rubicon.

Most Kremlin comment has been low-key, but has emphasized that an opportunity for arms reduction has been lost and a new arms race is beginning.

Anticipating the charge that the Russian walkout is to blame for this, officials are emphasizing that the lack of progress at Geneva was the fault of the United States and made negotiations pointless.

Moscow has not yet made its authoritative statement on the future of Geneva, including the parallel talks on strategic arms reduction (Start). There is speculation that either the Euro-missiles will be incorporated in a revamped version of Start, or that Start will also collapse.

Kinnock argues for freeze on deployment

From Ian Murray, Brussels

Nato could make the most of the Soviet walkout from Geneva by agreeing to freeze further deployment of cruise and Pershing-2 missiles in Europe at present levels, Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of the Labour Party, argued in Brussels yesterday.

Mr Kinnock said that although he deeply regretted the walkout, the reasons were easy to understand. He believed that the Soviet negotiators should be invited back against the promise that deployment of American missiles would be frozen.

Like most party leaders at the Socialist International here, Mr Kinnock concentrated on the missiles issue. Only M Lionel Jospin, representing the French Socialist Party, spoke out in favour of deployment of the intermediate range missiles. Mr Kinnock commented wryly: "I was obliged to ask why they don't have cruise and Pershing in France".

The British Opposition leader blamed both the United States and the Soviet Union for the breakdown. "In recent weeks, there were significant chances of agreement at five minutes to midnight," he told the meeting. "Now we are at five minutes past midnight and in danger of going into a long, dark night."



Time to listen: Mr Kinnock in Brussels yesterday

In view of the breakdown of the talks, the Labour Party would advocate the merging of negotiations on limiting medium-range and strategic weapons. Apart from the freeze on deployment by both America and Russia, the party wanted a freeze on nuclear tests and production, as well as the participation at the negotiations of countries other than the two superpowers.

According to Mr Kinnock: "Within Nato, relations between the European and the US have never been so strained. The development of an agressive interventionism and lack of consultation with its allies by the US Government has rightly caused alarm.

"The Labour Party remains committed to British membership of Nato and we want to work within Nato to change it" he said.

Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

Washington

After three weeks of travelling around the United States, one of my strongest impressions is how the political scene is dominated by the personality of Ronald Reagan. More so, I believe, than ever before. Even those who disagree with him most have a sense of infuriated awe at political skills which look so much more formidable within the US than they do on our side of the Atlantic.

Part of his strength lies in his capacity to divorce his personal standing from the more controversial actions of his Administration. He comes across to the American public as such a pleasant and appealing person, his almost boyish charm belying his years. "I can be mad at him", one liberal Democrat remarked to me in the Mid-West, "but I cannot hate him".

It was precisely this quality which enabled him to win the presidency by destroying Mr Jimmy Carter in their television debate. How could anyone believe that such a *friendly man could be trigger-happy?* He made President Carter look the unreasonable man for having suggested any such thing.

But Mr Reagan has more than a pleasing manner and an easy smile. His political instincts are acute. His personal popularity may not depend upon approval of his policies, but he is careful not to push his luck too far. The moral majority policies on abortion and school prayer have been pushed well down his list of priorities - the occasional gesture of support, but no more.

Even Mr Reagan's insistence on securing tax cuts, which has been widely interpreted as the mark of a doctrine apostle of supply-side economics, probably owes to his political conviction that they are necessary to retain the suppport of those voters who elected him.

A potential weakness

He has an instinctive rapport with average Americans. He knows how they will react and he expresses himself in terms to which they respond. This is true not only of such important occasions as his televised defence of the American presence in Grenada and Lebanon, which must clearly have been a remarkable exercise in political persuasion. It is also true of his spontaneous comments on many issues.

This is partly, I am sure, a subconscious gift. He strikes a chord with average Americans because he thinks as they do. This is a political strength, but it is also potentially a policy weakness. The intellectual range of the average American is not unlimited. Nor is his knowledge of other countries.

President Reagan has frequently been found at press conferences to have left the right answer behind. His grasp of the subtleties of policy is known to be insecure in a number of fields. He cannot speak to the peoples of other countries with the same sureness of touch. Often he seems surprised by their reactions. These failings have not weakened him politically at home, but they might expose him to the kind of policy errors that would ultimately destroy his dominance.

Unless that happens, he must stand an excellent chance of winning reelection next year if he runs again. He could lose if the economic recovery were to peter out before next November. *But I found most American* economic analysts now expeting it to last well into 1985 at least.

He could be defeated if the dissatisfied groups – blacks, Hispanics, and women, with none of whom is he in good standing at the moment – were to be motivated and mobilized to vote against him in sufficient numbers. The chances of his losing for that reason would seem to me to be higher, though not yet probable.

His greatest danger, I suspect, may lie in foreign affairs. His political judgment will not lead him astray as to what the American public are prepared to accept. It is not likely, therefore, that the Grenada operation, which was a considerable political success, will be followed in the coming year by the invasion of Nicaragua which would be a much more hazardous political enterprise.

Not all international questions, however, can be answered by political intuition. One could imagine that in the Middle East, for instance, the Administration might be unable to secure a success and lack the diplomatic finesse to withdraw in time. But without some new national misfortune President Reagan must stand a good chance of translating his personal dominance this year into an election victory next year.

Policemen hanged for torture

Islamabad (AP) - Two senior police officers have been hanged, the martial law authorities said. The executions, at dawn on Wednesday, following the hanging on Tuesday of a police inspector convicted with them of torturing a robbery suspect to death.

It was the first time that a Pakistani policeman had been executed or even brought to trial.

According to an official announcement, assistant Sub-Inspector Ghulan Rasool climbed the scaffold on Tuesday at Sahiwal central jail, 217 miles south of here. Sub-inspecor Amir Khan and Head Constable Zaman Khan Niazi were hanged 24 hours later at Mianwali, 125 miles southwest of Islamabad.

La Paz blast

La Paz (Reuter) – A powerful bomb exploded in the empty Bolivian Parliament causing considerable damage and blowing out three quarters of the windows in the government palace across the road. The city is rife with rumours of right-wing plots to overthrow left-wing Government.

Manila march

Manila, (AP) – Businessmen in suits marched alongside factory workers in one of the biggest anti-government demonstrations in Manila's financial centre since the assassination on August 21 of opposition leader Benigno Aquino. An estimated 15,000 took part.

Pope for Seoul

Seoul (AFP) – The Pope will visit South Korea from May 3 to May 7 next year at the invitation of President Chun doo Hwan. He will take part in ceremonies commemorating the bicentennial of Korean Catholicism.

Bourse stopped

Amsterdam (AP) – Regular trading was delayed more than two hours yesterday on the Amsterdam Bourse as about 20 city employees sealed off its entrances to protest against proposed cuts in government salaries.

Thieves to die

Nairobi (AP) – Four Somalis, including a woman, were sentenced to be executed by firing squad for stealing 17m shillings (£740,000) in public funds, Mogadishu radio reported. They were also ordered to pay it back.

Line for sale

Metz (AP) – Forty-five blockhouses along France's pre Second World War Maginot Line will be auctioned off on December 6 in the town of Longwy. Bidding will start at between 950 francs (£80) and 2,250 francs.

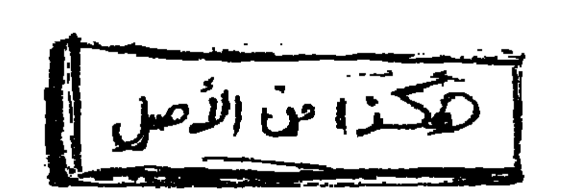
Peace minute

Paris (Reuter) – One minute from noon, on March 22, has been chosen for a worldwide silence for peace by Unesco which in conference here said the end of the world had become a terrifying possibility.

Corpses find

Peking (Reuter) – Tombs built 3,000 years ago and containing well-preserved corpses have been discovered at Pingan Bao, Zhangwu County, northeast China. Pots, stone tools, agate, shell and bronze knives and delicate ornaments were also unearthed.

هكذا من الأصل



Glenn campaign heads for early splashdown as film proves a flop

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The film about Senator John Glenn's life, *The Right Stuff*, has failed to make the expected dramatic impact on his presidential aspirations. In fact, the former astronaut seems to be heading for an early splashdown in his effort to secure the Democratic nomination.

The film, although critically acclaimed, is proving a box-office flop. In spite of the fanfare with which it was launched, it is playing to houses often only half full. One reason for its lack of success, it is said, is that many people have been put off because they believe it is about Glenn the politician rather than Glenn the space hero.

Senator Glenn's campaign managers had hoped the film would produce a tidal wave of support among rank-and-file Democrats which would outweigh the successes of his chief rival, Mr alter Mondale, who has been endorsed by the trade unions and teachers, and won key straw polls in Maine and Iowa.

Senator Glenn has attacked his rival for being soft on defence and for proposing job-creation and educational programmes – popular issues with many Democrats – which would add billions to the federal budget deficit.

Mr Mondale, who is more nimble on his feet, has had no trouble in deflecting these attacks. On defence, for example, he noted that Senator Glenn had not only voted for the B1 strategic bomber, but also for the Administration's abortive attempt to persuade Congress to approve a resumption of nerve-gas production.

Similarly, Mr Mondale easily rebutted the charges of profligacy by pointing out that his opponent had supported President Reagan's economic programme. "The most irresponsible giveaway is Reaganomics and his open cheque-book defence spending policies," the former vice-president said.

Senator Glenn's attacks have left many Democrats wondering what his political colours really are. "Are you a Democrat or a Republican?" A listener in Augusta, Georgia, asked earlier this month after Senator Glenn had finished elaborating his newly-devised pro-defence, anti-deficit message.

The senator seems uncomfortable with his image, and his attacks on his rival have not been made with much conviction. Never a powerful public speaker, he has sought in the past to portray himself as a straightforward, honest, quiet-spoken product of middle America. He does not play the part of the bully very well.

Instead, the latest polls have shown that Mr Mondale has been pulling away in recent weeks. His lead over the Ohio senator has ranged from a huge 35 points in North Carolina to a comfortable 20 in Florida. Only in his home state is Senator Glenn in the lead, and there by just 14 points.

The collapse of the former astronaut's campaign has produced some blood-letting. His political director, has been fired and his advisers have devised an aggressive new strategy to portray Mr Mondale as a man who "promises everything to everybody".

In so doing, they have also attempted to reconstitute the Glenn image. Headed by an advertising executive, the senator's media advisers are trying to change him from "Mr Nice Guy" into "Mr Tough Guy".

However, one problem with this approach – apart from trying to turn Senator Glenn into something he is not – is that his toughness is being directed at Mr Mondale rather than at the Democrats' common enemy, President Reagan.

In a recent column in *The New York Times*, James Reston argued that Senator Glenn could not hope to compete with Mr Reagan as a TV personality or beat Mr Mondale at organizing blacks, unions, liberal intellectuals and other Democratic constituencies.



Glad to be back: Vladimir Lyakon and Alexander Alexandrov, the soviet cosmonauts describe their 150 days in space

Future of Soviet space programme in doubt

From Our Own Correspondent, Moscow

The safe return of the two Soviet cosmonauts who spent 150 days in space has still left question marks over the long-term future of the Soviet space programme.

Pravda yesterday carried a front-page report of the landing in Kazakhstan, east of Dzhezkazgan, but said relatively little about the undocking and the journey back to Earth. It said that the mission had been "one of the most complicated in history", but did not elaborate.

There were fears earlier – expresssed on the whole by Western experts rather than Soviet officials that the two men, Colonel Vladimir Lyakhov and Mr Alexandrov, were marooned on board the space station Salyut 7, and that their Soyuz T9 craft might not make a safe descent. There were reports of a leak of propellent fuel.

There have been a series of Russian space mishaps over the past year. In December, a Soyuz crew made a hazardous return to Earth from Salyut 7, and had to be rescued in a snow storm after a bumpy landing. In April, the docking of a Soyuz craft with the space station – timed to coincide with Kremlin celebrations of Lenin's birthday – had to be abandoned when automatic guidance systems malfunctioned.

Soviet scientists are also concerned about the long-term effects of prolonged weightlessness. The Soviet space programme envisages a network of permanent orbiting space stations and laboratories. The two men who returned last December – Lieutenant Colonel Anatoly Berezovoi and Mr Valentin Lebedev – spent 211 days in space, and officilas were "worried by the effect on human organisms" of such missions.

Studies are being carried out on Colonel Lyakhov and Mr Alexandrov, who last month began to complain of fatigue and muscular contractions.

Fears for the two men's lives arose at the end of September when a Soyuz launch which would have brought a new crew and fresh supplies to Salyut 7 aborted

The Russians are breathing a sigh of relief that no dramatic rescue mission – either by a Soyuz crew, or by the Americans – proved necessary.

Afghan vote comes down hard on the Russians

From Zoriana Pysariwsky
New York

The United Nations General Assembly has called for the immediate withdrawal of the Soviet Union's forces from Afghanistan. The resolution was approved by 116 votes to 20, with 16 abstentions.

The resolution was one of the General Assembly's most severe forms of censure. Even South Africa and Israel have sometimes been spared such heavy condemnation.

The assembly made clear that even though the Soviet occupation was nearly four-years old the pressure for a political settlement would not slacken; nor could the Russians expect their tarnished image to brighten with mere gestures of interest in a solution. During the debate Pakistan's challenge to Moscow to present a timetable for withdrawal was echoed by many speakers.

Pakistan, which has more than two million Afghan refugees, once again led a campaign that was heightened by fears that after Grenada both superpowers might feel it easier to take international law into their own hands.

Hopes for a solution that persisted early this year seem to have faded.

Forty-five Third World countries sponsored the resolution, which reaffirms the right of the Afghan people to determine their own form of government

White idealist jailed for promoting ANC

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

A young Afrikaner, Mr Carl Niehaus, was sentenced to 15 years in prison for high treason by the Rand Supreme Court yesterday. His fiancée, Miss Johanna Lourens, was given a four-year jail term on the same charge.

After hearing the sentence, Mr Niehaus, a bearded and bespectacled former theology student aged 23, turned to the public gallery, which was crowded with both blacks and whites, raised his arm in a clenched-fist salute and shouted *Amandla* (power).

The gallery answered this traditional rallying-cry of black nationalists with the equally traditional response, *Awethu* (ours). Earlier this week the judge had to call for order when the gallery applauded Mr Niehaus's defence of the use of violence against the state.

This occurred while Mr Niehaus was giving evidence in mitigation of his conviction. He told the court that after "a lot of turmoil in my soul" he had decided that the violence of the underground African National Congress, of which he was a member, was a justified response to the "structural violence" of the apartheid system.

Cross-examined by the prosecutor, Mr Niehaus agreed that he had helped to draw up a pamphlet justifying the May 20 Pretoria car bomb, which killed 19 people and injured more than 200 others. He also said that the assassination of the Prime Minister might become "an option" if there was a chance it could end "the horror of the system".

Mr Niehaus told the court that the ANC had worked for peaceful change for 50 years, and had taken to violence only after it was banned and forced underground. Then for 20 years it had directed its violence at mainly inanimate targets. It had now resorted to killing people only as a last resort when nothing else seemed able to change the system.

The judge, Mr A. P. Myburgh, described Mr Niehaus as young, immature and "full of bravado", and said that, although high treason was a capital offence, he felt a "sentence for rehabilitation" was appropriate. He had passed a lesser sentence on Miss Lourens because she had been heavily influenced by her fiancé.

During the trial, Mr Niehaus admitted to having placed a "pamphlet bomb" outside an army recruiting office in Johannesburgh. This was intended to scatter 500 pamphlets urging whites to refuse to undergo military service, which is compulsory. But it was so amateurishly constructed it failed to go off.

He also confessed to having photographed and sketched a plan of the Johannesburg municipal gas works, allegedly for the benefit of ANC saboteurs, and to having attempted to recruit black and white South Africans for the ANC.

The product of a deeply traditional rural Afrikaner background, Mr Niehaus first clashed with authority at the conservative Rand Afrikaans University in Johannesburg where he enrolled as a theology student in 1978. He was sent down for putting up posters on campus calling for release of the imprisoned ANC leader Mr Nelson Mandela.

Black mine union wins first trial of strength

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

South Africa's fledgling black miners' union, the National Union of Mineworkers, has won its first important battle by persuading the industrial court to order the reinstatement of 17 of its members, dismissed two months ago for refusing to work in an area they considered unsafe.

Goldfields of South Africa, the country's second biggest mining house, was also ordered to pay the men the wages they had lost since their dismissal on September 22.

"We regard this as a test case for miners' safety rights, and it is also ... the first time black miners have taken an industrial dispute to court," Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, the union's general secretary said. "It is only a temporary ruling, but we are confident our agruements will prevail."

The reinstatement order will run for 90 days, during which the union and management of Goldfields' West Driefontein Mine will try to settle the dispute before a conciliation board. If they cannot agree, they will return to the industrial court for a final ruling.

Safety is a sensitive, and under-reported issue. Last year, 729 blacks died in South Africa's mines and 16,568 were injured. The Chamber of Mines says the extreme depth at which gold is mined creates special problems not found in other countries.

Established in 1982, the union was the first to be recognized by the Chamber in June of this year. It claims to have increased its membership from 25,000 to 50,000 and is accepted by the Chamber as having representative status in nine mines, eight of them gold mines.

There are about 630,000 blacks in South Africa's gold, coal, copper, platinum and other mines, of whom 42 per cent come from foreign countries. The union's influence, however, exceeds its numerical strength, since any agreements reached are likely to become benchmarks for the entire workforce.

Swedes inspect computers

Stockholm (Reuter) – Swedish officials began examining computer equipment held in two southern ports which Washington said was being smuggled to the Soviet Union in defiance of a US ban.

Computer experts were assessing the contents of Helsingborg two weeks ago to see if it was war material. Similar investigations started in Malmo on three other cases apparently connected with the Helsingborg equipment.

Drugs woman gets 16 years

Bülach, Switzerland (AP) – A Chilean woman, Maria Nelda Santana Valdez, aged 47, an alleged key member of a cocaine smuggling ring that operated throughout Western Europe, was sentenced here to 16 years in prison, the longest term since Switzerland's narcotics laws were stiffened in 1976.

She was found guilty of playing a big part in the delivery of at least 396lb of cocaine in 16 shipments from Bolivia between 1980 and 1982. Its street value wa put at £30m.

Hardship years give way to hope at last

Stephen Taylor, in the second of two articles, explains why there is now more optimism about the long-troubled economy.

ZAMBIA
Part 2

Armed with fresh evidence that one of Africa's longest-running economic crises has not affected Zambia's political stability, finance officials in Lusaka, the capital, are preparing for another visit from the men who have a big say in their economy. The mood is a good deal more sanguine than when the International Monetary Fund came to town a year ago.

There was never any doubt that most Zambians would endorse a fifth term by President Kenneth Kaunda in last month's election. What was remarkable, though, was that reaction to austerity measures necessitated by adherence to IMF requirements was not reflected in a bigger "no" vote.

In fact, the vote for KK, as he is known, increased from the 80 per cent of 1978 to 93 per cent.

The loan negotiated with the IMF a year ago, which succoured Zambia during the lowest point in its long economic decline was for 210 million special drawing rights (about £150m).

At the time, there was speculation that, having defaulted on one loan and being faced with an election, the administration would be unable to meet new, stricter conditions.

In the event, as a Western economist here says: "The Zambians bit the bullet and it seems to have been accepted. The patient is still critical, but he's looking a bit better".

The world's third largest producer of copper, Zambia has lost much of the prosperity it enjoyed afer independence from Britain in 1964. Mismanagement and neglect of agricultural potential left the country poorly equipped to withstand the slump from $2,500 (about £1,600) a ton a decade ago to $350 a ton this week for the mineral which earns more than 90 per cent of foreign exchange.

Zambia's timber and tourist industries have limited potential – most experts say its future depends on exploitation of agricultural resources.

Three years ago, after a series of disastrous agricultural experiments, the Government took the first step towards recognizing that farming belongs in the private sector, offering incentives to commercial producers in the form of payments remitted abroad.

In a country where all foreign currencey allocations were suspended last month, that make farmers an elite.

Although Zambians themselves must bear the blame for failing to capitalize on the good years, they have not been helped by the country's landlocked situation.

The Benguela Railway through Angola to the sea has been in only sporadic use since the civil war there in 1975, while the Chinese-built Uhuru Railway to Dar es Salaam, which opened the following year, has been plagued by technical problems

Help is at hand, from China – which is almost doubling the number of maintenance experts on the line.

In the meantime the Tazara, as the railway is named, is failing to get copper to the marketplace as fast as it is produced.

The coming discussions with the IMF will concentrate on the budget due in January. The Zambians will be under pressure to cut government spending.

Having observed IMF conditions and survived a difficult year, they will be expecting a bigger loan next year. Mr Bitwell Kumani, governor of the Reserve Bank, is mentioning 300 million special drawing rights.

[Concluded]

Spain backs supergrass strategy

From Richard Wigg
Madrid

Spain has decided to experiment with Ulster-style official informers in its fight against Basque terrorism.

Prison sentences will be reduced where repentant terrorists collaborate with police leading to the arrest of other members of the Basque terrorist organization ETA or help significantly to prevent further violence, the Cabinet decided. A Bill of "exceptional" anti-terrorist measures, to be sent immediately to Parliament, is expected to be in force for two years.

Copying the Italian and British experiences with "supergrasses", the Socialists are hoping to take advantage of the fact that a majority of Basques are disgusted with the endless bloodshss and kidnappings as well as the internal divisions between ETA's numerous factions.

Court jurisdiction over payment of the "revolutionary tax" by terrorists will be extended to people acting for them outside Spain. But the Bill will not make the payment of a ransom by the victim's family a crime as the Interior Ministry once intended.

Courts will have powers to close down newspapers and other media judged to be habitually justifying grave acts of terrorism.

Chile court order to free suspect

From Florencia Varas
Santiago

In a verdict termed "historic" by the Chilean press, the Court of Appeals has accepted a *habeas corpus* petition from a shanty-town leader calling for his release from one of the many secret detention centres run by the Government's security services.

The court's decision says that the National Centre for Information (CNI) is not empowered to arrest and detain people in non-public places.

There has been severe critism of the CNI both within the country and internationally after a worker in Concepción set fire to himself in protest at the detention of his two children by security agents.

The Government's secret security forces were created in 1973 immediately after the coup which overthrew President Allende.

The way in which the secret security agents operate has spread fear among the population. The agents arrive in the middle of the night, without any identification arresting people at their homes and taking them to unknown destinations without telling their relatives.

Over the past two weeks, since the suicide incident in Concepción, the criticisms have mounted and churchmen, politicians and professional organizations have demanded the CNI's dissolution and an end to "institutionalized torture".

China and Japan try to ease Korean tensions

From David Watts, Tokyo

Mr Hasuhiro Nakasone, the Japanese Prime Minister, has called for Chinese cooperation in relieving tensions between North and South Korea in the aftermath of the Rangoon bombing.

The suggestion came in the first round of talks between Mr Nakasone and Mr Hu Yaobang, secretary-general of the Chinese Communist Party, paying his first visit to a non-communist country.

Mr Hu's visit is the last of three important meeting in which the Japanese Prime Minister is adopting the higher foreign profile for his country that he has always advocated. As with his previous visitors, president Reagan and Chancellor Kohl, Mr Nakasone invited Mr Hu to endorse proposals pledging, among other things, to renounce the use of force between the two countries: or, as Mr Nakasone put it in his direct way, "Japan would never attack China".

Mr Hu said that he and Mr Deng Xiaoping had met President Kim Il Sung of North Korea, who had promised that there would be no invasion from the north and had added: "There is no power to do it".

Mr Hu said that although they had no details of the Rangoon bombing it had been made clear to President Kim that the Chinese were interested in the long-term stability of the Korean peninsula and that an increase in tensions from any source should be avoided.

For his part Mr Nakasone told Mr Hu that the South Koreans were interested in improving their relations with China. At present there are no diplomatic relations between the two.

Mr Nakasone has gone to some lengths to portray the meeting as "intimate" and, since Mr Hu is not head of state, elected to make a press statement in his own name which the visitor then endorsed.

This personal, relaxed style of diplomacy may well have helped to get over the embarrassment of the destruction of a 2,200-year-old statue which was smashed by a Japanese earlier in the week while on display in Osaka. The ceramic figure of a warrior was one of 14 pieces on display to mark the 400th anniversary of Osaka Castle.

● **RANGOON:** Six prosecution witnesses gave evidence yesterday in the trial here of two North Koreans accused of murdering 19 people in the Rangoon bombing (AP reports). A confession said to be from one of the accused, Captain Kang Min Chul of the North Korean Army, described how he and two other officers arrived in Rangoon on board a North Korean vessel and were to have been picked up by a ship in the Rangoon River after the attack.

THE ARTS

Jeffery Daniels reviews The Genius of Venice, "this stupendous exhibition", which opens at the Royal Academy today





Left: Lotto's *The Mystic Marriage of St Catherine with Niccolo Bonghi*, mannered and mutilated. Above: Jacopo Palma il Vecchio, probably a self-portrait.

The confident touch of genius

Serenity, security and self-confidence characterized the Republic of Venice in the sixteenth century, the period covered by this stupendous exhibition which is entirely worthy of its subject. Under the chairmanship of Professor John Hale, a team of scholars, both British and Italian, has worked together to assemble paintings, drawings and sculpture which illustrate the range of patronage throughout the city and the *terraferma*. The Venetians were proud of their city and proud of their inique capacity for political survival and they celebrated both with appropriate lavishness. (The exhibition has been sponsored by the Sea Containers Group and Venice Simplon-Orient-Express Ltd.)

Even the catastrophic fire which destroyed most of the interior of the Doge's Palace in 1577 was duly recorded by Ludovico Toeput, called Pozzoserrato, in a painting now in the Museo Civico, Treviso and shown at the beginning of the exhibition, together with the finest surviving example of the celebrated *Bird's-eye View of Venice*, dated 1500 and attributedto Jacopo de'Barbari (Dept. of Prints and Drawings, British Museum). Carpaccio's *Lion of St Mark* (1516) is flanked by two depictions of the bloody Battle of Lepanto, one a straightforward battlepiece, the other an elaborate allegory of Veronese (Venice, Accadémia of the Christian victory over the Turks whose impact was more psychological than political.

Having been thus to some extent orientated, the visitor enters the Large South Room, to be confronted with an immense range of questions. Students of the period may even get stuck here, studying the newly cleaned *Judgement of Solomon* from Kingston Lacy (National Trust) which has never previously been shown in public and is now attributed to Sebastiano del Piombo, having been acquired by William Bankes about 1820, in the advice of Lord Byron, as by Giorgione.

Two of Sebastiano's organ doors from the Church of S. Bartolomeo a Rialto, Venice, painted with *St Louis of Toulouse* and *St Sinibaldus*, represent the figures standing in niches similar to that formerly behind the figure of Solomon in the Kingston Lacey picture and now removed with the rest of the overpainting which has given the whole picture a strange, ghostly quality. The striking figure of the true mother on the right is similar in type to the guilty wife in the *Christ and the Adulteress* from Glasgow (City Art Gallery and Museum) which, when it belonged to Queen Christina of Sweden, was called Giorgione, but is now given to Titian, although it has also been attributed to Sebastiano del Piombo.

In the same room hangs the beautiful *Virgin and Child with St Anthony and St Roch* from the Prado, which is, like the Glasgow picture, described in the catalogue as "Circle of Giorgione, attributed to Titian", and which certainly has close resemblances to Giorgione's Castelfranco altarpiece (obviously not exhibited), that are admitted by the cataloguer, Francis Richardson.

The exhibition thus provides a number of teasing problems for the scholar, but it also offers major delights for the less specialized visitor, who cannot fail to respond to the magnificent array of works by Titian and Veronese assembled in the huge central gallery. Titian's stern *St John the Baptist*, which looks so uncomfortable in the Accademia presides authoritatively, flanked by a whole series of his remarkable portraits, from the youthful *Ranuccio Farnese as a Knight of Malta* (National Gallery of Art, Washington), through the strongly sensual *Knight with a Clock* (Prado) to the rather disapproving *Francesco Savorgnan della Torre* (National Trust, Kingston Lacey). The great "discovery" of the exhibition is the extraordinary late Titian *The Flaying of Marsyas* from Czechoslovakia.

Lorenzo Lotto brings to the exhibition that element of the unexpected it needs. He was incomprehensible to some of his contemporaries, including Aretino, but to the modern eye his almost perverse individuality is invigorating. A whole room is devoted to him, which is easily dominated by the astonishing *St Christopher, St Roch and St Sebastian* from Loreto, where he spent the last years of his life. Lotto's mannered style is already evident in *The Mystic Marriage of St Catherine, with Niccolò Bonghi* (Bergamo, Accaddemia Carrara) painted in 1523 in Bergamo in part payment of his rent. Bonghi, the landlord, stands awkwardly behind the Virgin's throne seemingly oblivious of the sacred tablean being enacted, and it accorsds perfectly with the unusual circumstances of the picture's origin that only five years later it should have been mutilated by a French soldier who cut out (very neatly) the landscape background.

If Lotto was intent on doing his own thing this is also true to a certain extent of Jacopo Bassano. In *Jacob's Journey* (H.M. the Queen) almost every figure appears to be offering his or her backside to the spectators. Contorted poses are also characteristic of Tintoretto, the third member of the great triumvirate of Venetian painters of the middle of the century, whose masterpiece, the decoration of the *Scoula di San Rocco* in Venice, could clearly not be represented in the exhibition. Nevertheless, his moving *Depostion* (1592) painted only two years before his death, has been brought out of the *Cappella dei Morti* of thr Church of San Giorgio Maggiore and Baron Thyssen has lent a *modello* for the gigantic *Paradise*, painted for the *Sala del Maggior Consiglio* of the Doge's Palace between 1588 and 1592 to replace Guariento's fresco, that was irreparably damaged in the fire of 1577.

In addition there are drawings, including a vivid self-portrait (it is assumed) by Jacopo Palma il Vecchio, prints and sculpture, mainly small bronzes. Among the marble reliefs Tullio Lombardo's *Bachus and Ariadne*is outstanding for its poetic quality.

Theatre

The Dealer
Nuffield, Southampton

As a dark coda to this year's Viennese festivities, Thomas Wiseman offers a view of the city in 1938 enjoying its last moment of incandescent glitter before being extinguished under the Anschluss.

That is a rather melodramatic description of a piece that might have been written by a latter day Schnitzler.

Viennese by birth, Mr Wiseman deals in ironies, compromise and old fashioned charm, and feels no obligation to reopen the files on Dachau and Auschwitz. Prompted by the memory of his father, a gambling man who stayed on and perished after the rest of the family had escaped, he focuses on a section of the population who were too attached to their pleasurable way of life to queue up outside foreign embassies on the outside chance of landing a gardening job in Macclesfield.

Two historical figures, Baron Louis Rothschild and Adolf Eichmann, appear; repectively dominating the first and second acts. But the play essentially follows the fortunes of a fictional trio: a woman journalist, Camilla, Wierthof, an impoverished young lieutenant, and the dealer himself, Oskar, whom Wiseman relates to Himmler's masseur and Joel Brand as well as to his father.

The point about this trio is that they are cafe acquaintances rather than true friends. They meet amid the Klimt-like decor of Fran Thompson's set, making deals, conducting affairs, and minimizing the growing danger of the barbarian advance. Nor, apart from Oskar, are they very likeable. Camilla is a pleasure-loving opportunist with a wicked tongue: Wierthof, son of an anti-Semitic general of the old school, rancorously ascribes his lack of promotion to the Jews.

A clue to what follows is already implied in the deal Rothschild makes with Oskar to bargain with Nazis for his safe keeping. And when the curtain goes up on the second act with swastikas imprinted over the secessionist murals, Oskar has taken over the role as the Rothschild negotiator haggling with Eichmann over the relief of his principal Jewish asset.

All the relations are transformed by the Nazi presence. Wiertof, still preserving his Jewish mistress, joins Eichmann's team in the hope of promotion into the Wehrmacht. Camilla redefines her Jewish identity, while Oskar, having concluded the Rothschild business, goes on to his master deal – curing Eichmann's constipation by hypnosis in exchange for freeing selected Jews. That may sound a trivial joke but Mr Wiseman exploits it brilliantly

Oskar, played by Shaun Curry was the rquisite half smile, functions as the play's narrator, a perilous device which Mr Wiseman turns to his own advantage. Cyd Hayman could emit more sparkle as Vienna's answer to Dorothy Parker but, in David Gilmour's production, she shows impressive emotional power once the chips are down.

Irving Wardle

Red Saturday
New End

Martin Allen's play begins with two footballers facing a Sheffield semi-final and, with a brilliant local 19-year-old waxing and a household-name Londoner (who apparently does not rate a single room) waning, there is a deep well of facile comedy and confrontation that is skilfully but very predictably exhausted over the next two hours and half. Lunch is mentioned, to young Terry's mystification: "We call it dinner it middle of t'day if it's cooked". Told of quiche Lorraine he says cheerfully: I'll have to tell t'bird that, she's called Lorraine". Mentioning that he and his fiancee "have a pact", he finds Lee (who is somthing of a wit) retorting "Well, get it unpacked".

This little world, and these characters, are carefully evoked but after *Just a Kick in the Grass* such as personal focus is narrow and, though our sympathy seems asked for Lee (John Salthouse) and invalided Noel, whom Terry is replacing (Mark Drewry), it is not hard to think of people who deserve it as much if not more – their supporters, many in dead-end lives, for a start.

Pressure at the top – what did Ulysses say in *Troilus and Cressida* about stopping for a moment in the rat-race and getting trampled on? – is crushing, but there is a proverb ready for anyone who cannot stand the heat in the kitchen. Lee, who only entered the sport to spite his hated father, may lash out from fear but Terry, for all his naivety, has Yorkshire guts and words when baited that suggest he will last out better and straighter.

Tim Fywell, as director, shows sensitive expertise in the powerful sense of place and the cast's precise, absorbed performances.

Reece Dinsdale, as Terry, perfectly balances insecurity and toughness in brain and body language and John Salthouse is equally firm-rooted in personality and social setting as he faces a long black retirement in a luxury home with a sauna, an unloving wife and a greyhound called Beat the Clock that won a silver collar at Walthamstow.

Anthony Masters

Television
Beguiling charm

"Unphoney charm and unlaborious originaity" reads Kingsley Amis's early commendation on the cover of the new Penguin edition ("Now filmed for television") of Edna O'Brien's **The Country Girls.** Channel 4's film of the book, produced by Aida Young and directed by Desmond Davis, is pure and unadulterated unphoney charm – the sort that brings the birds off the trees and the critics out of their bunkers.

Who could resist the graceful, Tess-like appeal of Maeve Germaine as the heroine (mother drowned, drunken father) in this odyssey through adolescence? Who, could fail to sympathize with sensitive, dark-browed, Sam Neill in his hopeless extra-marital passion for her? Who was not beguiled by the schoolgirls' innocently naughty confidences, the birdsong and rainwashed skies, the sweet Irish tones and yet again, the journey back into the comforting mists of the 1940s?

Nothing about this accomplished film could be called laborious, but "original" would be stretching it, not least because Edna O'Brien has mined the same seam since, but also because the charm is – despite the final wistfulness – essentially that of the True Romance. In True Romances ugly and painful emotions are magically swept aside, and here they were also.

TV Eye (Thames) made the disburbing but, when you come to think of it, hardly astonishing assertion that Aeroflot is an espionage agency.

There is apparently a well-documented list of instances of Russian planes "accidentally" straying off course towards American, French and Swiss military installations: the Thames sleuths watched Germans tracking one such event on radar. "Fairy tales," said the spokesman from Moscow, admitting in the next breath that, of course, it was true.

Michael Church

Concert

Philharmonia /Sanderling
Festival Hall

Those planning to listen to the Capital Radio broadcast of Wednesday night's concert on January 8 should arm themselves with an amplifying earpiece and make sure that every clicking gadget and every ticking clock is silenced.

Mitsuko Uchida's performance of Mozart's Piano Concerto in B flat, K595, was by far the quietest I have heard: one's own breathing even seemed an intrusion. In response to her first, reluctant entry, coming into soft focus as if out of deep meditation and almost in spite of itself, Kurt Sanderling gently lifted and parted string textures, and revealed many details of quiet beauty in Mozart's flute and bassoon writing which it is often too easy to take for granted.

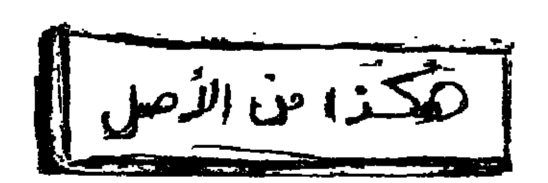
But after a while, this noiseless quartz movement became at first boring and then a little [illegible] low dynamic level had been all, if the performance had been a miniature, a super-refinement of a substantial intention, – then something would have been said, and very beautifully too. But Miss Uchida's faultlessly calculated phrasing, her exquisitely turned and variegated ornamentation in the slow movement gradually bled the very lifeblood out of Mozart. Form suffocated content, manner negated matter, and in the end all that was left was disembodied charm, a chill wrath of an idea.

While the orchestra itself had seemed enervated by that performance, Beethoven's "Eroica" Symphony, in the hands of Sanderling, gave them and us something to think about.

It was in the finale that all the work's disquiet was drawn up into a set of variations which became a kind of collage of the surreal. After the scherzo's sprightly confidence came a bewilderment of dynamic and rhythmic activity. Melodies, in the unanimity of the strings, or in the babbling solo voice of a flute, were made to seem deceptive in the context of such dislocating orchestral counterpoints, and only a strange hollowness was found in the final pomp, circumstance and peroration.

Hilary Finch

هكذا في الأصل



THE ARTS

Cinema

Stylist oddities of a founding father

Before the Nickelodeon
ICA Cinemathèque

London Film Festival
National Film Theatre

Videodrome
ABC Shaftesbury Avenue

Triumphs of a Man Called Horse
Classic, Tottenham Court Road

The past few years have seen a renewal of interest in the very earliest years of cinema history – very gratifying to us older incunabulists who are thus at last relieved of the stigma of fogeyish eccentricism for our preoccupation with the origins of the art. Researches like Charles Musser's film **Before the Nickelodeon: the Early Cinema of Edwin S. Porter** tend to reveal two things in particular: one is how sophisticated and entertaining some of these so-called primitives may be in their own right: the other, how wrong so much of cinema history has been until now.

Edwin S. Porter, for instance, has always been regarded as the originator of modern montage methods. Musser reveals that this view of him is largely based on a print of his *The Life of an American Fireman* of 1903 whose editing had been "modernized" at some time in the 1930s. Porter was unquestionably an innovator, probably more important than he has hitherto been acknowledged; but as an editor he pursued, until far too late, a method which was to have no future in the cinema.

Musser pieces together the rather sketchy record of Porter's career. From being an electrician with the navy, he became a movie exhibitor at a time when films were still single-scene animated snapshots. Sticking together, merely for convenience, several scenes of the Spanish-American War, Porter stumbled on the momentous discovery that joining films can extend or modify the significance of the individual shots.

The narrative techniques which Porter developed for himself involved overlapping or even repeating a scene, from some different aspects. Thus, in the authentic version of *American Fireman*, Porter first shows us a scene in a bedroom where a fireman rescues in turn a mother and child and carries them out of the window. In the next shot we are shown precisely the same scene, as it would appear from the outside the window.

Depite this stylistic oddity (even, perhaps because of it: 60 years on, this wilful manipulation of time acquires its own fascination) Porter could be a highly effective story-teller. *Before the Nickelodeon* includes several of his little film dramas in their entirety; and the ICA are also showing a supporting programme of four additional Porter films.


Entertainment down on the farm: Robert Seaton leads the players in Michael Darlow's *Accounts*, "among the best work produced under the auspices of Channel Four".

Before the Nickelodeon was featured in the London Film Festival, in the same programme as Donald Taylor Black's *At the Cinema Palace – Liam O'Leary* a graceful and affectionate tribute to the impish, septuagenarian Peter Pan and one-man repository of Irish cinema lore. Other outstanding festival delights had included John Schlesinger's *An Englishman Abroad*, (to be shown on BBC 1 on November 29) from a script by Alan Bennet, based on Coral Browne's recollections of meeting Guy Burgess while playing *Hamlet* in Moscow. he film is urbane, funny and eventually very touching. Using Budapest locations, John Schlesinger captures with terrible accuracy and only a touch of caricature the atmosphere of Moscow; and Miss Browne's performance of herself when younger is wonderfully witty.

Having known Burgess in his Moscow days, I can vouch for the uncanny accuracy with which Alan Bates hits off his mannerisms (though I guess neither he nor Bennett nor Schlesinger actually met the orginal). I am surprised, though, that Coral Browne found Burgess's flat so messy. I only remember it being kept spotless by an adoring *babushka*, and Burgess saying: "Never breathe it in London, dear boy, but there's no servant problem in Moscow". It was better furnished, too, than in the film, since Burgess had his own English furniture with him. "Foreign office shipped it out. They've been awfully decent about some things."

I must again urge festival patrons to seek out th shorts which feature only as footnotes in the programme. Especialy notable is Jenny Wilkes's *Mother Wedding*, a brilliant if bleak impressionist essay on sexuality, as a young woman looks back over her own and her parents' erotic experiences, ranging from rape to romance, and, either way, rarely fulfilling. David Glynn Jones's *The Wire* is an eery little sketch, touching on the surreal, about the evolution and naive self-justification on a natural voyeur and wire-tapper.

With something like 200 titles, the festival selectors have had to dip pretty deep into the barrel; so that it is surprising to discover some films that they have rejected. It seems inconceivable that they should turn down Euzhan Palcey's *Rue Cases Negres*, which won three prizes and was a tremendous popular success at the Venice festival.

It is inconceivable, too that alongside the large British selection they chose to reject Michael Darlow's *Accounts*, which was shown to the press this week, will be transmitted next month, and is certainly among the best work produced under the auspices of Channel 4. Written by Michael Wilcox, it tells of a widow and her two sons who uproot from their Northumbrian home to take on a new farm on the Borders near Kelso.

Nerviness that it might drift into Archer country is needless. The film explores territory new to British cinema, in the matter of sentiments as well as geography. The relationship between the two young brothers – played with faultless integrity by two Newcastle actors, Bob Smeaton and Michael McNally – is evoked with exceptional sensitivity and intensity.

The commercial companies meanwhile are sneaking out some of their less distinguished offerings. David Cronenberg is a director who has made his name thanks to a special effects expert, Rick Baker, with a line in simulating holes in bellies for nasty things to crawl in and out. In **Videodrome** the hero's belly is slit to admit video cassettes: the premise of the film is a modish idea about Mabuse-like villains seeking power through the video tube. The idea has potential; but Cronenberg's script is too half-witted and inconsequential to lead it anywhere.

Triumphs of a Man Called Horse is a jaded sequel, with intermittent flashbacks to its marginally superior predecessors. Richard Harris is got up like an elderly character actress from *The Boy Friend* and declaims as if the awful script were Shakespeare. Luckily he is killed by white renegades half way through, handing over his tribal responsibilities to a natty little man called Michael Beck who seems set to carry on the tedious but apparently interminable battle between Sioux and settlers.

David Robinson

Sir Claus Moser, Chairman of Covent Garden, in conversation with **John Higgins** looks at the Opera House in the light of the Priestley report.

A healthier outlook


Sir Claus: "You cannot have half a great opera house"

By any measure Covent Garden has had a hard year. In the season which ended last July the Royal Opera planned for two new productions, half the normal number, and ended up with only one of their own when a *Manon Lescaut* had to be hastily borrowed from Hamburg. The Royal Ballet had a highly successful tour of America and the Far East, but there has been regular criticism (not least on this page) of the quality both of its repertoire and its performances at home. And there has been Priestley: a government team of nine inspectors investigating the running of the Opera House and the RSC.

The main recommendations of Priestley were announced a month ago and the detailed proposals are now emerging piecemeal between hefty red covers, volume by volume. How apprehensive was Covent Garden's Chairman, Sir Claus Moser, who had plenty of experience of civil service workings during his time as Government Chief Statistician, of the Priestley Report before it came out?

"Quite clearly if you have inspectors of this quality going through every aspect of your work at home, as well as visiting a number of major opera house abroad for information, comparison and assessment, you are going to be put through your paces. Especially when they spend six months doing it. But I always had confidence that they would end by deciding we were unerfunded. And that to my delight has happened. The basic conclusion of Priestley is that our present deficit should wiped off, that our subsidy should be increased immediately by 17-18 per cent, and that from 1986 onwards we should ourselves find savings of £500,000 to £600,000 a year.

"Priestley has stated the case for maintaining a great opera and ballet house in this country better and more clearly than it has been stated for a very long time. The theme running through this report, so far as the ROH is concerned, is that you cannot have half a great opera house. Possible cuts to make financial savings, such as the closure of our ballet touring arm or limiting the Opera to a festival basis have been rejected."

So much for the good news, which of course has yet to be implemented by the Minister for the Arts, the Earl of Gowrie, and the Government. Priestley was highly critical of some areas of operation, including overspending in the costume deparment, which got a lot of press attention, and the failure to reach out to a larger public

"Obviously it was going to be suggested that we should order certain things differently. The attention given in some newspapers to ruffs and underskirts tells you more about journalists than about running an opera house. Show me an institution which has an absolutely clean bill of health on expenditure and I will show you a miracle. On the other hand the criticism of lack of operatic Outreach [Priestley is full of jargon words which are likely to find their way into administrative vocabulary for a month or two] into the community at large is absolutely right".

Sir Claus Moser may feel less acquiescent about Priestley's suggestion that the opera planning should be tailored more to the needs of the box-office and that there should be fewer excursions into the rarified corners of the repertory.

"This is the one area of Priestley I find unacceptable. It would have stopped us starting our season as we have done with a Stravinsky/Ravel double bill, and continuing it with *Lulu*. I think it also ignores the fact that a public fed on a diet of *Aidas* and *Bohèmes* soon acquires a jaded palate."

The Priestley idea for separate funding for Britain's four principal companies (the ROH, the RSC, the National Theatre and the ENO) seems to have been pushed under the carpet for the moment. It would have meant the end of the Arts Council as a body with financial teeth, as that establishment in Piccadilly was quick to realize. Some would have been quite pleased to see its power reduced, but relations between the ROH and the Arts Council are considerably better than they were a year ago.

Possibly the biggest problem of all faced by Covent Garden in the mid 1980s lies right outside Priestley orbit. This is the lacuna appearing in the administration between the departure of the present music director, Sir Colin Davis, in 1986 and the arrival of Bernard Haitink in 1988. It is thought by many that a gap of two years was to big a price to pay for Haitink's services, despite the fact that he has agreed to be available for consultation as well as 12 weeks of work during the interregnum years. Sir Claus defends the choice by saying that there was never any suggestion during the negotiations that Haitink would break or cut short his Glyndebourne contract, which runs until 1988.

There is also the matter of the periods of service of Sir Claus Moser himself and his general administrator, Sir John Tooley, which have implications for that interregnum. The Moser chairmanship runs until 1984, but the Board have already asked him to extend it until 1987, not least so that he can put into practice some of the Priestley recommendations.

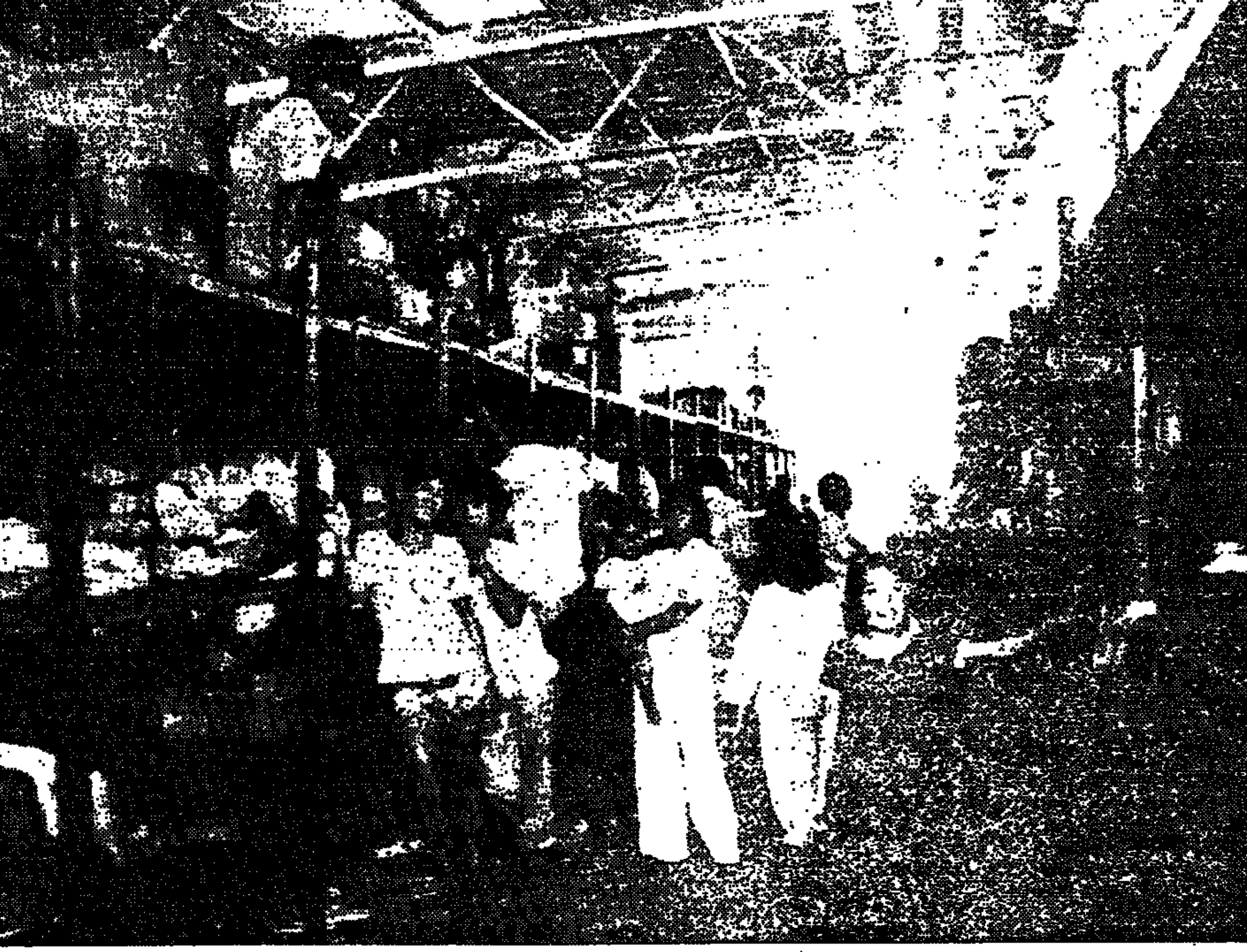
Sir John's position is more complex. His present contract runs until 1986. But when it is due for review by the Board it seems more than likely he will be asked to renew it until 1989, by which time he will be 65 and by far the longest-serving general administrator of any major European opera house.

SPECTRUM

When the boat people set sail from Vietnam they believed they were leaving tyranny behind to head for freedom and a new life. But for 6,000 of them impounded in closed camps in Hongkong, the desperate voyage had merely traded one prison for another. A new prison with no hope of early release

A slow boat to nowhere

By Stephanie Williams



A Hongkong camp: 130 bunks for 280 people – single men on top. couples in the middle. children at the bottom

It takes one hour by boat to travel from the centre of Hongkong to the remote corner of the island of Lantau to visit the Chi Ma Wan Closed Centre for Vietnamese refugees.

Here. tucked into low cliffs behind the beach. nearly 2,500 Vietnamese men. women and children are living on what used to be a football pitch behind barbed-wire fences 17ft high.

There is a similar encampment across the straits on the island of Heiling Chau, a former leper colony that is now a rehabilitation centre for drug addicts. These "closed centres" are, in fact, prisons.

Of the 13.500 Vietnamese refugees living in Hongkong today, more than 6,000 are now detained in these two closed centres and a third, smaller one on an isolated peninsula on Hongkong island. All those detained have arrived since July 1982; all are prohibited from finding work outside and are subject to discipline and control.

The decision to impound the Vietnamese was taken in the face of continuing arrivals of boat people and the drying-up of quotas for resettlement in the West. Until July, 1982, Hongkong had sheltered Vietnamese boat people in "open" camps in the urban areas where the refugees were able to live rent-free, go out to work and earn money to get back on their feet.

Locally, these camps have never been popular. Since 1980 the Hongkong authorities have been pursuing a rigorous policy to restrict immigration from China, a policy that includes spot checking of identity cards and the forbidding of wives and children of recent immigrants to join their spouses and parents in Hongkong. From the open camps it has been too easy for the Vietnamese simply to be absorbed into the community.

At the same time, since 1979 other countries of South-East Asia, Thailand, Malaysia. the Philippines have been keeping the Vietnamese in varying degrees of closed detention, while others have refused the boat people any kind of asylum, For too long, Hong Kong had looked the most attractive destination in the region. As one security officer put it, there was a growing feeling that "if you could not get to the United States, then Hong Kong would do instead." By spreading the word that from July, 1982, Vietnamese arriving in Hong Kong would no longer be free it was hoped to discourage new arrivals.

I visited Chi Ma Wac on a Friday morning. The centre consists of 15 corrugated iron huts: eight dormitories, one large eating hall, a building for newcomers who are quarantined for six days after arrival, a kitchen, two blocks of latrines, a shower room and the hospital. The Salvation Army maintains a small workshop. There are a few trees near one perimeter wall; otherwise there is no shade and no relief from hard concrete surfaces. The only space for recreation is beneath a basket ball net outside the eating hall.

The refugees are free to move about within the fences, but are only allowed out in working parties under guard to sweep the road, cut grass, to collect rations from the jetty or, if seriously ill, to go to hospital on Hongkong island. They may receive one 30-minute visit per week from relatives or close friends. Within the camp, there are only plastic cups and containers; knives in the kitchen are kept under lock and key; other tools are permitted only under supervision.

All parcels and letters coming into the centre are opened and searched for weapons and drugs; outgoing mail is checked, in the words of the officer in charge of the camp, "to see if they say anything that is not true about the camp". Children born in the camp have their births registered in Hongkong, but they are not accorded the right of Hongkong citizenship. When they have been accepted as immigrants to a country in the West, the refugees are released – on to planes at the airport.

Ten a.m. inside the eating hall, and the noise is deafening. In one half, four classes around blackboards competed to hear English lessons; in the other, groups were gathered around women from a Dutch welfare group which organizes knitting, smocking and sewing on three mornings a week. Men do woodworking or painting. The products are sold through welfare handicraft shops and the money goes to pay the refugees $HK1.50 (15p) for each morning's work.

The work relieves the tedium of life in the camp but attendance is unreliable and the atmosphere was heavy. About 170 refugees earn between 80 pence and £2 a week for work in the camp as cooks, interpreters, dormitory spokesmen or cleaners.

At noon and 6 p.m. the refugees are allowed to watch one hour of television and queues begin to form outside the block well beforehand, young children in front. When I left, just after noon, nearly 500 people were filing in to sit on the floor to watch the news in Cantonese, a language almost no one could understand.

Elsewhere in the camp, all seemed very clean, orderly and a little too quiet. A group of women were washing at the eight double standpipes in one corner. Some children were messing about in the "streets" between the buildings. A tiny, open-air library which the Salvation Army opened a month ago was crowded – about 20 men reading papers, generally in Vietnamese, many years out of date, that are mainly sent from America.

About 40 were waiting on wooden benches to see the doctor in a separate compound within the camp: about the same number were lining up to wait for their mail to be released.

Inside each dormitory are ranged triple tiers of bunks – each a 4ft by 6ft shelf of hardboard – in three rows. The bunks are rammed up hard against one another so they form three shelves the length of the building. Two of the rows line up so that the head of one bunk touches the foot of the one behind. They look like warehouses stacked up with people.

In the hut I visited there were 132 bunks occupied by 280 people: single men on the top, couples in the middle. children at the bottom. Each family's space also accommodated its meagre possessions in neat cardboard boxes. Towels, a roll of lavatory paper. water bottles, were commonly strung along pieces of string across the bunks. Babies slept in string hammocks strung across the space.

'The only thing we have in our minds is to leave'

It was all very quiet. People were dozing, reading, writing letters, studying English. One young girl was painstakingly pouring what turned out to be expensive perfume received in the morning's post from a paper cup into a plastic medicine bottle.

Her neighbour, Pham Ngoc Anh. a pretty 22-year-old girl from Hanoi, has been in the centre since last May. She came to Hongkong with her two brothers who sleep in the bunk above; she shares hers with two sisters and her mother. who is Chinese and the reason why they left Vietnam. Her father. an engineer. is still there.

We spoke to no one who complained about conditions in the camp. Universally the food was praised. Was there nothing they wanted? Books," said one. "Freedom." said another.

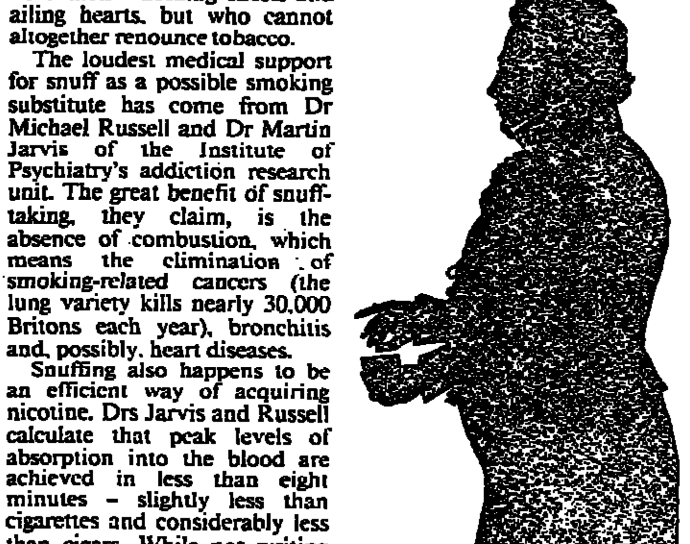
One old lady, who has a brother in Australia, spoke privately in Mandarin to my colleague. "The only thing that bothers us is getting out. We are waiting for the visas. We are waiting for a change of policy. The food is very good. The number of books could be better. But the only thing we have in our minds, day and night. is to leave. And. if we could leave a little faster, it would be nice."

The tragedy is that this is not likely to happen. Chi Ma Wan's volunteers are now organising a programme for permanent education for the children. Fifty per cent of the Vietnamese now coming to Hongkong arrive from North Vietnam. The United States, which has so far taken nearly 60 per cent of the boat people. will not accept them.

Half the Vietnamese already in Hong Kong do not fulfill the requirements to settle in the West: either they have no relatives overseas: or they cannot prove they worked for the South Vietnamese administration. Because many of the more recent refugees have left to escape the extreme poverty of conditions in Vietnam, they are not defined as refugees but as economic migrants and do not qualify for resettlement. In any case. Western countries. like Britain. with economic problems of their own and suffering from "compassion fatigue", have already filled their quotas of refugees agreed at the UN conference in 1979.

For Hong Kong the problem is that her numbers of boat people, who nobody wants. are gradually increasing. Unfortunately for the boat people themselves. it may only now be beginning to dawn that they may have traded life under one kind of tyranny for a prison of another sort.

The noses have it





After a summer advertising offensive by Britain's largest manufacturer, the British snuff industry is gathering itself for a campaign to convince the public the snuff-taking is no mere relic of the Victorian age.

Early analysis of its £20,000, five-month campaign has presuaded J. and H. Wilson of Sheffield that its efforts, aimed primarily at the young, seem to have been justified. "The reponse", says the company's general manager, Jerry Jones, "proves without doubt that an immense interest is developing." This initiative is reinforced by a more moderate sweep by the Snuff Grinders and Blenders Association, which hopes to revive the boom days of the late seventeenth to early nineteenth centuries when men and women of every age and caste enjoyed their snuffle.

Wilson's summer campaign offered "refreshment at your fingertips" to the predominantly young and fashionable readers of *Tatler, Avant Garde, Cosmopolitan, The Stage, Time Out, New Musical Express, Melody Maker* and *National Student*. Readers of each publication were enticed with the offer of a free tin of Medicated No 99. Six thousand reponded.

Wilson has been trying to promote the idea of snuff as a "smart and sensual pleasure" in its advertising, hoping to dismiss the image of an unpalatable habit practised by a vanishing breed. In the process the company, which celebrates its 150th anniversary this year, has been criticized for aiming at the young, and for employing what has bee interpreted as an occasionally clumsy adaptation of the jargon of the drug culture. Sample: "Wow! It's heady stuff!"

Apart from such attempts to bring the habit back into vogue, snuff is also starting to find favour among those cigarette smokers who are beginning to heed their wheezing chests and ailing hearts. but who cannot altogether renounce tobacco.

The loudest medical support for snuff as a possible smoking substitute has come from Dr Michael Russell and Dr Martin Jarvis of the Institute of Psychiatry's addiction research unit. The great benefit of snuff-taking, they claim, is the absence of combustion, which means the elimination of smoking-related cancers (the lung variety kills nearly 30,000 Britons each year), bronchitis and, possibly. heart diseases.

Snuffing also happens to be an efficient way of acquiring nicotine. Drs Jarvis and Russell calculate that peak levels of absorption into the blood are achieved in less than eight minutes – slightly less than cigarettes and considerably less than cigars. While not writing off the possible danger of nasal cancer and other "nasal irritations", they are optimistic about snuff's relative benefits. "Our findings", they wrote in *The Lancet*, "suggest a new age for snuff as a feasible alternative to cigarette smoking. Snuff could save more lives, avoid more ill health than any other preventive measure likely to be available to developed nations well into the twenty-first century."

Yet the perception of snuff's impact on health, like the habit itself. seems to change with passing fashions. Molière may or may not have been joking when he called it "the craving of upright men. It not only rejoices and purifies brains of men but it also instructs their souls unto righteousness and by taking snuff we acquire virtue".

At the same time physicians were condemning it for "reducing the brain to a sooty, dry condition, increasing one hundredfold death from apoplexy and cancer". Manufacturers answered these complaints with medicated concoctions (still the most popular types in Britain) which were sold as cure-alls. Grimstone's Eye Snuff, for instance was "most sovereign for clearing the head of all humours and strengthening the sight", while Samuel Majors offered his Imperial brand as a "remedy for all disorders of body and mind".

The snuffing habit was learnt from American Indians. It seems to have been seized on by the Irish and Scots as an invigorator, and by the English as an aromatic barrier against the prevailing urban stench.

A gentleman was known by his snuff, laying it down as he would a cellar of wine, and inevitably the habit spread to the "lower orders". The product became increasingly adulterated – with coal or powdered glass – and ultimately jettisoned from smart circles. *Hints on Etiquette*, published in 1835, called snuffing "an idle, dirty habit practised by stupid people in the unavailing endeavour to clear their stolid intellect. A gentlemen cannot take much stuff without decidedly losing caste".

By this time smoking was drawing level. It suited the new Victorian surface decorum: neat white handkerchiefs and contemplative curls of smoke replaced gaudy brown-stained napkins and the snort and jabber of coffee-house wit. There was still a substantial British snuff habit, however. until the Second World War, particularly among people – lawyers and miners. for example – to whom smoking is forbidden, and in dusty factories where snuff might clear the nasal passages.

Snuff consumption in Britain, measured at 1.2 million lb. in 1944, was down last year to 0.1 million lb., but Wilson estimates that there are still half a million regular users. Most of them of course, are well past middle-age, hence the emphasis on attracting custom among the young. The angle of the advertising campaign, with its suggestions of sensual satisfaction, has also prompted the thought that the manufacturers might be hoping to make a connexion, subliminal or otherwise, with cocaine – currently the most modish youth-culture drug.

"That was nowhere in our thoughts", insists Jerry Jones, although he admits to "speaking with a degree of naivety on this one".

The Health Education Council takes a stronger view. "A disgusting, anti-social habit", said its spokesman. "While it is a less hazardous way of getting a daily nicotine dose, there is evidense that it can cause nasal cancers. What we object to is putting it in young people's magazines with a readership of kids who will send off for anything, particularly if they think it's glamorous."

Andrew Tyler

moreover... Miles Kington

Interviews: an expert speaks

Q. What is an interview?
A. An interview is an encounter between an unknown person and a famous person, for which the unknown person gets paid but the celebrity does not.

Q. Why should a celebrity undergo this ordeal?
A. To keep in touch with the public while only having to meet one of them. To put straight mistakes made by the previous interviewer. To publicize a book or film. Because he has been told to.

Q. What does the interviewer get out of it?
A. An autograph for his children.

Q. What does it mean when an interviewer says: "He paused and thought deeply before replying"?
A. It means the celebrity is trying to remember the answer he always gives to this question.

Q. Does he always give the same answers?
A. Yes.

Q. Why?
A. Because he is always asked the same questions.

Q. How does and interviewer prepare for an interview?
A. He looks up cuttings of previous interviews with the celebrity to see what kind of questions have been asked before.

Q. And then?
A. He asks them again.

Q. What if the interviewer actually does ask different, new questions?
A. The celebrity pauses and thinks deeply, then gives the same old answers.

Q. What is the question most often asked in interviews?
A. "What sort of difference has fame made to your private life?"

Q. What is the answer to that question?
A. "It means I have to suffer interviews by odious little nerks like you."

Q. Does he actually say that?
A. No. He says: "I have very little private life, but I owe everything to the public, and never resent their intrusion."

Q. Does the celebrity manage to correct mistakes made by previous interviewers
A. Yes.

Q. Does this make him happy?
A. No. A new interviewer always makes new mistakes.

Q. What is the difference between a good interviewer and a bad interviewer?
A. A bad interviewer, when writing his piece, always mentions where it took place. "As we took tea together in the Ritz", of "Sitting in his elegant work-room, hung with Hockneys", of "From his hotel bedroom overlooking the Thames". This gives the false impression that the interview will somehow be different from other interviews; a good interviewer would not give this impression.

Q. Are there any other kinds of interview?
A. Yes, the *Radio Times* interview. This always takes place during the actual production of the star's programme, as if to create the impression that the interviewer is talking to him during the white-hot moment of creation.

Q. And is this the impression created?
A. No. We get the impression that the star is too busy to see the interviewer.

Q. How does the interviewer describe the celebrity?
A. As smaller than I had expected.

Q. What do celebrities most like talking about?
A. Their new books or films. But they find this difficult.

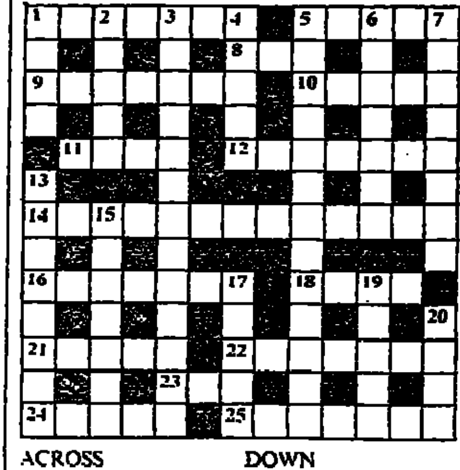
Q. Why?
A. Because interviewers prefer talking about their old books and films.

Q. How long does an interview take?
A. About an hour less than the interviewer contrives to suggest.

Q. Why do so many interviewers end: "And there, regretfully, I had to leave it."
A. Because he is being kicked out.

Q. Why?
A. Because someone else is waiting to interview the celebrity. And there, regretfully, we shall have to leave it.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 211)



ACROSS
1 Superintendent (7)
5 Prize (5)
8 Picas (3)
9 Ardent (7)
10 Stint (5)
11 Furtive glance (4)
12 Diminish (7)
14 Diligent (13)
16 Restrict with bollards (4.3)
18 To the interior (4)
21 Eject violently (5)
22 Of highest status (7)
23 Not at home (3)
24 Distinctive idea (5)
25 Close-pitched balls (7)

DOWN
1 Current fashion (4)
2 Exploding stars (5)
3 Gain excitement from (3.1,4,3,2)
4 Performed again (5)
5 Property remover (5.8)
6 In an agitated manner (7)
7 Represent another (8)
13 Frozen sweet (3,5)
15 Lawsuit dismissal (7)
17 Damp smelling (5)
19 Discussion topic (5)
20 Bunks (4)

SOLUTION TO No 210
ACROSS: 1 Trader 5 Canopy 8 Oil 9 Biafra 10 Impale 11 Mewl 12 High-rise 14 Chiang Kai-Shek 17 Clueless 19 Rife 21 Cygnet 23 Erotic 24 Oar 25 Unveil 26 Enrols
DOWN: 2 Raise 3 Defalcate 4 Road hog 5 Cling 6 Nip 7 Pelisse 13 Reservoir 15 Halcyon 16 Austere 18 Extol 20 Frill 22 Nee

FRIDAY PAGE

The unexpected midwife

Today's liberated parents may pride themselves on encouraging their daughters to become medical students rather than student nurses, but how many would feel quite so enthusiastic about nurturing their sons' ambitions to become midwives?

Whether we approve of sexual stereotyping or not, we still associate some occupations with one sex rather than the other: we expect long-distance lorry drivers to be male; we expect midwives to be female. It was hardly surprising, therefore that when Philip Chalmers told his mother he was going to train as a midwife, her reaction was rather cool.

Finally, as he packed to leave for the training course in London, she confessed that she would not have liked a man to deliver any of her four children. Undeterred, Philip went ahead and became the eighth man to qualify as a midwife at the Whittington Hospital in north London. He is still a rarity.

So what were his reasons for wanting to become a midwife? Philip grins. Small, slight, blond and bespectacled, he bears little resemblance to the matronly figure of the cartoon midwife.

Now aged 23, he was born in Oxford but moved to Merseyside while still a child. He originally considered training as a teacher or social worker but plumped for nursing in the end because he had had enough of school and could start training as a nurse at 16 years old.

He qualified as State Registered Nurse, worked as staff nurse on both acute surgical and genito-urinary wards. Then he decided he would like to work in an Accident and Emergency unit.

He explains: "When I did my general nursing training, men were given no training in obstetrics at all. I felt that if I wanted to work in A and E it was important to know how to cope if a woman was brought in in good, strong labour, for instance."

Training locally as a midwife turned out to be impossible. No one would accept him. Eventually, Philip contacted the Central Midwives Board which referred him to the Whittington. In 1981, when Philip started his course, this was one of only two hospitals where men could train as midwives. (The other was in Scotland).

Men were admitted under an experimental scheme, set up in 1976 to see whether midwifery should, despite the Sex Discrimination Act, remain the preserve of women.

Regional health authorities can no longer refuse to accept men on midwifery courses simply on the grounds of their sex. Women, it was felt, would now accept male midwives just as they accept male doctors.

Yet it is still too early to say whether there will now be a sudden influx of men into midwifery. Despite governmental decrees, there is still some hostility towards male midwives.

Philip says: "Women are asked when they come for their booking in appointment at the antenatal clinic whether they have any objections to being seen by a male midwife. Very few say "yes" – usually women with strong religious or cultural reasons who would also ask to be seen by a woman doctor.

"The question of husbands objecting never seems to arise. Most men who come in with their wives once labour has started are actually quite submissive.

"In some ways you have to work harder to overcome any feelings a woman might have about you as a man – the 'you can't have a baby, you can't breastfeed, so how can you tell me what I should do?' attitude.

"It probably is easier for a woman to identify with another woman, but I've found that you simply have to show you know what you're talking about. After all, half the female midwives haven't had babies, either".

Certainly the women I spoke to, waiting patiently for their antenatal appointments in the clinic at the hospital, seemed unconcerned at the prospect of a male midwife. Kim White, a postman's wife, aged 24 summed it up: "What difference could it make? When you're pregnant, all you are worried about is the baby. As long as the people looking after you know what they are doing it doesn't matter what sex they are. You are seen by male doctors, why not male midwives? In fact, I think men can actually be more sympathetic than women."


Philip Chalmers: "You simply have to show you know what you're talking about. After all, half the female midwives haven't had babies, either"

Margaret Hatamain, a secretary aged 27, agreed. "I prefer men. I have a male dentist, doctor, hairdresser. Why not a male midwife? A lot of female midwives are single or else they've never had a child of their own. They are only telling you what they've learnt. A man can do that just as well."

Much of the opposition to male midwives has come not from women who have babies, but from professionals. One of the questions worrying the Royal College of Midwives, for instance, was that of chaperonage. The need to chaperone male midwives, it was argued, could create staffing difficulties at a time when resources are already stretched.

Philip Chalmers thinks this argument is a red herring. "It's all nonsense. In any case it hardly ever arises. When you are a student midwife, you should never be left unsupervised anyway, and once you have qualified you usually have students with you. If you are a responsible person who has built up a good relationship with a woman, she'd have to have a pretty warped sense of humour to accuse you of anything. And you'd certainly have to be pretty weird to try to take advantage."

Feminists, too, while presumably supporting the principle of equal opportunity elsewhere, have argued against the introduction of male midwives. Men, they say, have always resented the power women have traditionally held as healers, herbalists and midwives.

Admitting male midwives into the profession, according to some feminists, is like opening the doors to the enemy. Even midwives who would never dream of calling themselves feminist, suspect – rather more prosaically – that men who want to qualify as midwives see the job as an opportunity of furthering a career in general nursing, rather than a vocation in itself.

Philip feels it is unfair to use this as a reason for discouraging men to train as midwives. "Fifty per cent of all qualified midwives don't practise and so far there have been so few qualified men that it is ridiculous to make assumptions about whether men will practise once they are qualified or not.

"I don't want to rise all the way up the career ladder. Some women just resent men in general and are very bitter about their being involved in what they assume is a female role."

Since he qualified five months ago, Philip has been working on the ante-natal ward at the Whittington. So far he has no plans to move on. "I want to stay until I can say I'm really a midwife. Then I'd like to go abroad where I could use the qualification to the full. The role of the midwife is fairly limited in most civilized countries."

Meanwhile he expects the whole fuss about male midwives to die down as a few more men enter the profession and it becomes a "relatively normal thing for men to do".

And, he says with a smile, he is a normal man and does have a girl friend. "In general nursing you always get those sly comments on a ward, suggestion that all female nurses are easy and all male nurses are gay. It's very annoying when you are simply trying to do your work. But it doesn't happen so much on 'middy.'

"I've learnt a lot and it's given me a lot of confidence. It's nice to know how to deliver a baby – although that's only the tiniest part of being a midwife. And now my mother is quite proud of me!"

Lee Rodwell

MEDICAL BRIEFING


Graham and Janet Walton

A policy for sextuplets

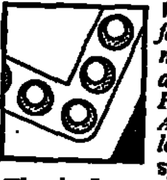
Graham and Janet Walton must be wondering how they are going to afford to bring up their sextuplets and perhaps wishing they had insured themselves against such a large family. Eagle Star Insurance offers a twins policy and will pay up to £1,000 on the birth of twins, with the benefit doubled for triplets or more.

The level of premium takes into account the mother's age and the history of twins in both parents' families. The minimum premium is for women younger than 23 with no known twins in either family and it costs £2.50 for every £100 of benefit.

Premiums rise if any predisposing factors are known, so Eagle Star is happy to consider mothers who have had infertility treatment. The sky's the limit if you want to bet with Ladbroke's you can place as much as you like, provided you meet two criteria: that the bet is place in the first 11 weeks of pregnancy and that you provide a doctor's certificate declaring you have not been given a fertility drug.

The odds are 33-1 if there is no history of twins and goes down to 20-1 if there is.

Pill guide



Women attending family planning clinics may finally be able to pick up the Family Planning Association's new leaflet Pills in Perspective *next week. The leaflet – also available from family doctors – gives a practical guide to women on what to do in the light of the two recently published scientific studies which linked the combined pill with breast and cervical cancer.*

The fact that the leaflet has taken over a month to prepare and has been revised several times shows just how difficult it has been for family planning experts to translate the two studies into practical advice.

The major difficulty has concerned Dr Malcolm Pike's study, which linked long-term use of certain pills in young women under the age of 25 with an increased risk of breast cancer.

Dr Pike said that pills containing the most potent progestogens were linked with a higher incidence of breast cancer. But now many expert scientists argue that the table of progestogen potencies Dr Pike used was out of date and that for the moment it is impossible to say what his results really mean.

Don't be surprised, therefore, when you see that the list of preferred pills in Pills in Perspective *include pills which, according to original newspaper reports, would have been deemed "potent".*

The FPA is advised by experts, and their advice for the time being is that all women, both under and over 25, should, if they take the pill, be on one which contains the lowest dose of both hormones – oestrogen and progestogen, to suit them.

The FPA suggests that women under 25 should finish their present three month or six-month course of pills and then discuss things with their doctor. It advises all women to examine their breasts each month and to have a regular cervical smear.

Knife danger



The tragic death of a teenaged butcher's boy has prompted doctors from East Birmingham Hospital to warn of the dangers of the trade. Their cautionary tale could equally apply in the kitchen. The boy's knife slipped while he was boning meat and he stabbed himself in the right groin. Although the wound was only small he bled profusely because the femoral artery had been severed. He was working alone and help arrived too late to save his life

The injury, Butcher's Thigh, is well known to surgeons; the meat trade should be aware of it, Drs David Sherlock and Martin Shalley report in the *Lancet* It can be easily repaired by surgeons and the injured person will survive as long as firm pressure is applied promptly and effectively to stop the bleeding. The doctor say warning notices should be put up in areas where meat is prepared.

Baby hope

Brain damage and handicap may not in future be the inevitable consequence for a child if the birth is difficult and the baby is starved of oxygen, doctors at University College Hosital in London have discovered. Each year thousands of babies are left handicapped for life because they were "birth asphyxiated" and until now it had been assumed that nothing could be done to prevent brain damage.

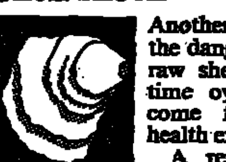
But at the annual meeting of Action Research for the Crippled Child last week, Professor Osmund Reynolds, Professor of Neonatal Paediatrics at UCH, described studies on seven babies who were badly starved of oxygen during birth which indicate that although the brain damage is triggered by the initial lack of oxygen, the baby's brain cells don't actually start to die until several hours later.

Professor Reynolds and his colleagues discovered this "latent period" when using nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy – a technique well known to analytical chemists but rarely before used on human beings – to measure the energy content of the babies' brain cells.

To their surprise the energy content of the brain cells of those babies who suffered a lack of oxygen as they were born did not start to fall immediately after their birth.

The discovery means that doctors have a few vital hours in which to act to prevent brain damage.

Shell shock



Another warning on the dangers of eating raw shellfish – this time oysters – has come from public health experts.

A report in the *British Medical Journal* describes how hundreds of people who enjoyed Pacific oysters at parties in London – all on the same premises – last January subsequently paid for the pleasure.

Around 1,300 people were fed and 40 per cent of those later contacted were ill. Their gastroenteritis developed a day and a half after the reception and on average, each person had to take a day off work. One person was admitted to hospital.

The public health scientists believe that the illness was caused by a virus carried by the oysters and that this was not washed out of the oysters after harvesting, although bacterial contaminants were eradicated.

There is an urgent need to find ways of removing viruses from oysters, they say.

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser

I miss the glow other husbands get at the door



I know when there is a crisis. The bed is empty when I wake in the morning and there is a note on the top of the fridge. It generally contains two pieces of information. First, the unspeakable name of some hotel in an unknown country and second, a list of malfunctions about the house. Our friends believe that we have lived together now continuously for nearly 20 years because it is just not possible to generate a divorceworthy row through fridge notes.

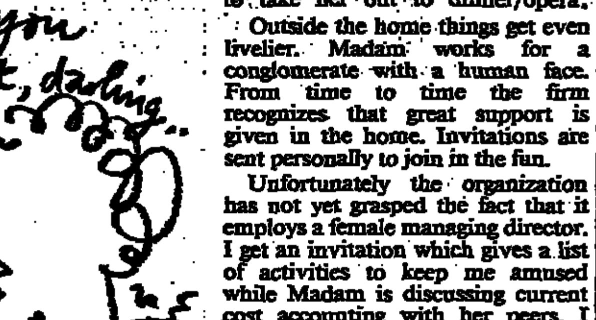


My wife has a career and is demonstrably better at it than most men. She is responsible for budgets running into tens of millions of pounds from Dacca to Dublin, as well as the United Kingdom.

She has her own bank account, of course, but somewhere along the way she has got herself a joint account on mine, for – she said – the household expenses. This trapped me with the first law of woman: no matter how much a woman earns, she will spend your money too.

The note on the fridge just states that the waste disposal unit won't dispose, the tap leaks in the bathroom and the man who came to clean the carpets (to supervise whom I had to take time off work) allowed the legs of the table to leave brown stains. There has emerged a sort of demarcation line between what is, or rather what she says is, man's work and what isn't. It tends to be the time-consuming, boring things that fall to me, while she orders the wine.

You would think that, given all this free time, I could enjoy a bachelor's life, but the house is so feminine as to be misleading. Just look at the bathroom: six bottles of shampoo, three of conditioner, a heap of leg shavers, 27 oblong packets containing partly used eyeshadow, a jug containing brushes, pots of blusher, foundation cream, cleanser and moisturizer, soaps of lavender and sticks and sticks of lipstick. The hoard is the result of a propensity to stock against the next world famine in essentials and a determination to try out all the products of her trade.

For me it constitutes a barrier against making new friends of the right sort. Innocent folk at the office believe that I am married. They come in for a drink but never actually see "her". Wives of course, are expected always to be at home to welcome their men. Mine never is. Yet there is all that stuff in the bathroom. Eventually an unspoken rumour hovers in the air. I don't have a wife but a secret transvestite passion.

I must confess to missing, though, that warm glow other husbands get when they are received at the door after a hard day, by their loving wives.

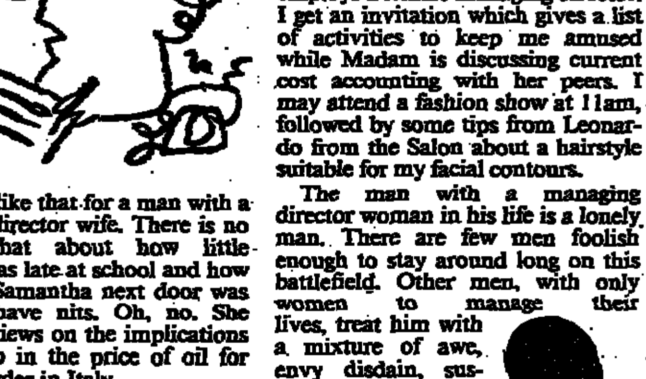
It is not like that for a man with a managing director wife. There is no relaxing chat about how little Tristram was late at school and how his friend Samantha next door was found to have nits. Oh, no. She wants his views on the implications of the drop in the price of oil for talcum powder in Italy.

Then one day he comes home, having as usual assimilated the City Business Library on the way, to be met at the door with the full blast of a woman scorned. He has missed an anniversary, forgotten he promised to take her out to dinner/opera.

Outside the home things get even livelier. Madam works for a conglomerate with a human face. From time to time the firm recognizes that great support is given in the home. Invitations are sent personally to join in the fun.

Unfortunately the organization has not yet grasped the fact that it employs a female managing director. I get an invitation which gives a list of activities to keep me amused while Madam is discussing current cost accounting with her peers. I may attend a fashion show at 11am, followed by some tips from Leonardo from the Salon about a hairstyle suitable for my facial contours.

The man with a managing director woman in his life is a lonely man. There are few men foolish enough to stay around long on this battlefield. Other men, with only women to manage their lives, treat him with a mixture of awe, envy disdain, suspicion, amusement, concern, curiosity and anxiety. He knows, though, that he is a pioneer.



Tom Shaw

TALKBACK

Late for school?

From Mrs D. A. Robinson, 31 Inglewood, Woking, Surrey

I was interested to read Mary Gilbert's Comment "A Right to Learn" (Friday Page, November 18). My daughter, born on June 1, was five years three months old when she started school in September 1982.

It has gradully dawned on me since that no only did she miss the special teaching and understanding of a reception class – because she was already five, she joined a class that had mostly been at school since January – but she will be in the First School a year less than her friends a who are only six months older.

No free tickets

From Alan G. Smith, 68 Denmead House, Highcliffe Drive, London SW15

I can assure Mrs Virginia Smith (Talkback, November 11) that her distaste for the expression "meal-ticket" is shared by those who, like me, are expected to be paying for it. Nevertheless, that is what it is.

By her own admission she is capable of supporting herself and her former husband is supporting his children by paying the outgoings on the home in which they live. His support will not cease at 16 years as she claims, but when the children cease full-time education, which *may* be at 16. Whenever it is, their father's legal duty to support them ceases. Why, therefore, should he continue to provide his former wife with free accommodation?

If, as Mrs Smith speculates, the children are unable to find work, that is a matter for the social security schemes to which we all contribute. If he chooses to offer additional help to them, that is for him to decide on a voluntary basis. It is not, nor since 1948, has it ever been, his duty in law.

No credit

From Norma Moss, 19 Delancey Street, London NW1

In Talkback (November 9) Sara Bird commented "do you really want your sense of identity to be determined only by what job you do? Isn't that letting someone else decide your rateable value?"

I am unemployed. I went to a well-known electrical firm to rent a TV. Armed though I was with a cheque, bank card and credit card, when I stated I was a housewife and not employed (what price housework?) I was told that I could not sign the agreement: my husband had to come from his office to do it.

What does that do for one's sense of identity?

Crumbs



The quantity of fresh breadcrumbs needed for the Christmas pudding recipe published on Wednesday is 170 g (6 oz). White or wholemeal crumbs may be used.

We apologise for the omission.



THE TIMES DIARY

Roger, and almost out

If Professor John Ashworth, former Think Tank chief scientist, has retained all his schoolboy cunning, there's no knowing where he might end up. On Wednesday he told the Royal Signals Institution how, as a signaller in the Combined Cadet Force while at school in Devon, he discovered that schools in the Channel Islands took in the afternoon examination papers which mainland schools took in the morning. He accordingly began transmitting the contents via the signals hut to friends in Jersey. Although discovered and demoted – and on the brink of expulsion – he received his first blinding impression of the impact that modern technology could have on a cumbersome bureaucracy; something that was to stand him in good stead during his Think Tank days.

● **Patrick Cosgrave, a former special adviser to Margaret Thatcher, gave a television interview in his home town, Dublin, last weekend. During it, he insisted that he wished to be considered British since his "comprehension" of being Irish made him a British Tory.**

Scrub it

Although Thorn EMI Screen Entertainment has a female top executive, Verity Lambert, other divisions in the company seem to have a rather outmoded view of women. A Thorn EMI Domestic Electrical Appliances advertisement for its Kenwood Gourmet is headed, "If she gets her present now, your Christmas is made." It then suggests that husbands buy their wives a Gourmet but hand it over well before December 25 to ensure a steady supply of cakes, puddings and mince pies. "So come on, be sneaky and buy her a Gourmet now," it advises. Such a good idea, because with all the cooking out of the way, she'll be able to spend the day itself scrubbing the doorstep.

● **Mr Manibhai Patel has made a wise choice of political party. A caption in the current issue of *The Social Democrat* says that Mr Patel, a member of Harrow SDP, "has no time for political activity."**

Picket line-out

Hot on the heels of Julie Welch's fine television play *Those Glory Glory Days*, about a girl obsessed with football, another female reporter is starring in a true-life drama her own. At 23, Joanna Davies is a specialist writer of rugby – the first woman member, in fact, of the Rugby Writers' Club. She is also "mother" of the chapel (office branch) at the *Richmond and Twickenham Times* and leader of the 13 National Union of Journalists members who have defied David Dimbleby by striking since October 17. Several of her striking colleagues are old enough to be her father, who is also a rugby fanatic and, of course, a Welshman.

● **Volume 23 Part 2 of the London and Middlesex Archeological Society list of publications includes a pamphlet entitled *The Cranley Gardens Hoard*.**

Prophets of gloom

The staff of the monthly bulletin *Memo* (Middle East and Mediterranean Outlook) have something that other journalists would give their souls for: the gift of clairvoyance. Under the heading "Next month's pointer", it says: "Watch for increased violence by the Muslim Brotherhood in support of the PLO and against President Assad of Syria and President Mubarak of Egypt.... Full story in the next issue."

BARRY FANTONI



'I saw one, but it wasn't nearly as nasty as the Falklands war'

Eye on profits

London Weekend Television is using some emotive language about its financial position. The retiring chairman, John Freeman, referred to "the present bleeding of ITV" and this week's *Mail on Sunday* blamed the Government for the fact that the company's series *Marlowe – Private Eye* has yet to be shown. The article claimed that because of a financial crisis in ITV, profits were down and levy exemption could not be claimed on non-existent profits. *Ergo*, since the cost of Raymond Chandler's *Marlowe* could not be recouped, the series could not be shown. In fact, LWT had quite a good financial year. More to the point, it expects to have an even better one next year. If it turns out that next year's profits are high enough to merit a levy on the company which will allow it to recover its costs on *Marlowe* – that's when the series will be screened.

PHS

Building up a prison crisis

by Andrew Rutherford

The Home Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan, defended his successful bid for additional prison construction and staff recruitment with two assertions. He maintains that the prison estate has been neglected, saying that no new prisons were built until 1958. He also says that 10,600 new prison places (including 4,000 "gained" by refurbishment) will end overcrowding by the close of the century. Both propositions are highly questionable.

Far from being neglected, the prison system in England and Wales has received considerable capital investment since 1945 when total capacity stood at 14,300. By 1957, although no new prisons had been built, capacity had been increased by 9,000 places through a combination of property acquisitions and extensions to existing institutions. Since that date a further 15,000 places have been added to the system by extensions and new constructions. There are now 121 institutions compared with 78 in 1960.

The increase in prison staff has been even more spectacular, rising between 1960 and 1982 from 8,250 to 25,700. In fact during this period the number of prison officers rose at twice the rate of the increase in prison population. While the number of civil servants fell by 9 per cent between 1979 and 1982, the number of prison staff rose by 13 per cent and the additional 5,500 staff now to be recruited will account for virtually all additions to the civil service.

The claim that by the end of the decade the capital investment programme will eradicate overcrowding is very doubtful. Home Office projections estimate the 1990 prison population at 50,000 (compared with 44,000 today), although Mr Brittan anticipates a net fall of 2,000 as a consequence of measures he has announced since becoming Home Secretary. But because of the way in which types of prisoner are allocated to particular prisons, equalising capacity and population may not end overcrowding. When such an equivalent last existed, in 1973, there were 12,000 persons sharing cells which had been designed for one person.

More significantly, there is considerable reason to doubt that the prison population will rise at the level forecasted by the Home Office. Between 1970 and 1981 a standstill in the prison population of between 37,000 and 42,000 was achieved. But by late 1981 it was clear that the standstill policy was being abandoned. William Whitelaw told the House of Commons in March 1982: "We are determined to ensure that there will be room in the prison system for every person whom the judges and magistrates decide should go there and we will continue to do whatever is necessary for that purpose."

The real danger is that Mr Brittan's prison-building programme will send a signal to decision-makers throughout the criminal justice system that additional capacity is available. As a consequence the prison population is likely to be well in excess of 50,000 by the end of the decade and prison overcrowding will still be a major problem. The prison system remains set upon a relentless expansionist course. To break the expansionist mould will require substantial reductions in the apparatus of imprisonment so that prisons come to be regarded, throughout the criminal justice machinery, as a scarce resource.

More than 60 years ago the Home Secretary, Winston Churchill, successfully embarked on this course, and within a decade the prison population had been reduced by 50 per cent. Mr Brittan has chosen to disregard the experience of his illustrious predecessor and his legacy for the next century will be an overcrowded system of monstrous proportions.

• *The author is senior lecturer in law at Southampton University and his book,* Prisons and the Process of Justice – The Reductionist Challenge, *will be published next year.*

David Watt

Kansas corn, but don't be deterred

Having seen *The Day After* (American Broadcasting's nuclear catastrophe television film) I am sure the IBA is right to reject Mrs Whitehouse's advice and to allow it to be screened. It is not a very good film, being, like most American disaster movies, full of cardboard stereotypes for characters and crude fake effects for kicks. Strangely enough, although it is not exactly for the squeamish, it pulls its punches, for in describing the effects on a small Kansas town of half a dozen 100 kiloton nuclear explosions no more than 40 miles distant, it greatly underestimates the probable devastation and horror.

It is necessary for dramatic purposes, for instance, that our hero, Jason Robards, caught in his car in flat, open country, 30 miles from the nearest blast, should be able to stumble through the flash and fire storms for 10 miles to the local hospital in order to tend to the sick for a heroic week before succumbing to radiation sickness, but it is not exactly plausible.

None the less it is not a bad film either. It will give people a jolt (which they need); it explains, in more or less truthful terms, some of what is involved; and it provides images that will return to the mind whenever one is tempted to discuss nuclear war in too detached or cerebral a fashion. For all these reasons it ought to be shown.

But what about its political significance – for I cannot see how the IBA has been able in good conscience to pronounce that "it doesn't make any political statements"? To be sure, its authors have coded their message and made no explicit appeal. But their intent is manifest in all sorts of little points and asides, particularly the very conscious portrayal of obfuscation and fatuity, culminating in a splendidly irrelevant presidential broadcast delivered in the best Reagan homespun style on H-Day plus about six or seven.

The object of the film, clearly, is to make an emotional appeal which comes over loud and clear: "Ordinary people are more important than governments; governments cannot be justified in putting their countrymen to this kind of nuclear risk for remote principles such as freedom and justice. Deterrence is useless, because this is what happens when deterrence fails".

As a reason for banning the film, this is no better than any of the other objections. For one thing the case against deterrence – which is basically a pacifist's one – is entitled to a hearing. For another it is as foolish to ask for a movie about what happens when deterrence succeeds as it would be for one about a skyscraper that is really fire proof, a bridge that is well designed, or an airliner that does not have a bomb in its hold and a pilot with a long, secret history of mental instability. Without these fatal flaws, there is no story.

Why, then, was I irritated and worried by the film – and in a way that its authors manifestly did not intend? No doubt I shall be told that it was because the truth is uncomfortable, especially if you don't want to believe it. But the facts as told in the film are ones I do already believe in; it is only the inference being surreptitiously hoisted on to me that I object to. I felt rather the same many years ago when I was taken, during the course of a Polish government tour, to Auschwitz. That is, as many people will know, a horrifying experience and could have been a deeply moving one had not my hosts made it very clear that the primary object of showing me these mementos was not to arouse profound thoughts about the human capacity for evil, far less sympathy for the Jews. The main point at that time was that I should reach the spontaneous conclusion that the Germans were bad and dangerous and therefore the occupation by Poland of the former German territories on their western frontier was fully justified.

In the nuclear case the terrible factual premise is equally valid, and the proposed conclusion, if not as self-serving as the Polish one, is at least as precariously founded on feeling and not reason. And in the present prefervid climate where emotion is increasingly in the ascendant on these matters, it seems likely to have a disproportionate impact.

This is a serious prospect for it entails the further growth of two simplistic sentiments that are already making progress. One is the notion that nuclear weapons should and could be disinvented or at least safely reduced to near zero (the sudden discovery by the British Council of Churches that the possession of nuclear weapons is an offence against God appears to be part of this phenomenon); the other is the idea, basically neutralist, that Europe can purchase nuclear safety by opting out of the East-West conflict. This last view is not a response that the authors of *The Day After* can have intended, but I can imagine many people watching the film here next month and saying "This is what comes of having nuclear weapons on your soil – we want no part of it".

The latest opinion polls suggest that the majority still realizes that nuclear weapons are here to stay and may even be helpful in promoting peace and discrediting war, that Europe could not escape the nuclear consequences of an East-West conflict even if it went into the Soviet camp. But it does no harm to draw out the real conclusions from *The Day After*.

Nuclear weapons have horrendous and indiscriminate effects on ordinary people. These apply equally in Kiev, in Coventry and in Kansas city. If one side can inflict them, it is vital that he should know he will suffer them too, because if he knows that, he will not inflict them or threaten to. The most vital goals in this situation are parity and openness – or to put it another way, deterrence and confidence. We long ago achieved sufficient parity for our purposes and we could preserve it by negotiation at a much lower level if we really tried.

We have been extremely remiss on this last point, and we have been doubly remiss about openness; the lack of confidence at present is the most worrying thing about East-West relations. There is almost no dialogue, and therefore no certainty, much distrust and an unnecessary amount of danger – not much danger, but enough to make the making and showing of a film like *The Day After* an understandable frailty.

Coming: the Carmen cavalcade

"It was a strange and wild beauty, a face which at first was astonishing and which one could never forget. Her eyes especially had an expression at the same time voluptuous and savage, which I have never seen since in any other human. Eye of gypsy – eye of a wolf, that is a Spanish saying full of perception. If you have no time to go to the zoo to study a wolf's gaze, then look at your cat the next time he is watching a sparrow."





Channel 4's line-up: Hélène Delavault with Howard Hensel, Zehava Gal, Eva Saurova

That is one of the earliest views of Carmen in Prosper Merimée's short novel of the same name, before Don José himself takes up the story of how he becomes besotted with the gypsy girl in Seville and eventually killed her out of passion and jealousy.

Thirty years after Merimée published that description, Bizet's opera was heard at one of those operatic premieres which went straight into the history books, a night of disaster at the Opéra Comique in Paris in 1875 when the audience liked the music little and the (to them) sordid story even less. But *Carmen*, like *The Barber of Seville* and *La traviata* before it, recovered swiftly to become a slice of international public property.







On film: Laura del Sol with Antonio Gaddes, Julia Migenes-Johnson, Marushka Detmers and Jacques Bonnaffé

Outside opera, Carmen has appeared on screen a number of times. The silent cinema saw her as a vamp and it was no suprise to find Theda Bara and Pola Negri among those playing her. Rita Hayworth followed later in sound, also my personal favourite, Vivianne Romance, under Christian-Jacque's direction; so of course did Dorothy Dandridge in Otto Preminger's *Carmen Jones*, with Marilyn Horne at the very start of her career providing part of the sound track. Miss Horne 40 years later is still in powerful voice, which proves that mezzos can have a lengthy career. On stage, Zizi Jeanmaire turned her into a long-legged temptress for Roland Petit's ballet company and Seville oranges used to roll all over the stage at curtain fall.

Over the next few months Britain is likely to see half a dozen more screen Carmens of which the first will be Hélène Delavault when Channel 4 transmits Peter Brook's *The Tragedy of Carmen* on December 7. Channel 4 must have fought hard for the rights on *La Tragédie de Carmen*, especially as this will be a world premiere as far as television is concerned. Brook, since the days when he was director of production at Covent Garden, just after the war, has been in the habit of creating legends and few have been more successful than the *Carmen* he fashioned from Bizet's opera.

It opened in Brook's Paris theatre, Les Bouffes du Nord, just over two years ago and each one of its 200 performances was sold out. There were queues at the box office and even bigger ones outside the main doors before they were opened: no seats were reserved and there was a mighty rush to get the best places. The Bouffes is run on strictly egalitarian principles – except for the odd seat set aside when a presidential visit is expected – with a flat price of about £5.

Brook stripped down the opera just under an hour and a half with the help of his adapter, Jean-Claude Carrière. All the trappings of grand opera, including the chorus, were removed and the composer, Marius Constant, reduced the orchestra to a little over a dozen, placing them at the back rather than the front of a stage turned into a sandy arena. The production was intended to travel and it did: to Hamburg, to Barcelona, to Scandinavia and round France itself, but never to London. There was much talk of the Riverside Studios in Hammersmith and just a little of an obscure cinema in Notting Hill Gate, The Coronet. Alas, it all came to nothing and Brook's stage *Carmen* has instead just opened at the Vivian Beaumont Theatre, which has been dark for some time, in New York's Lincoln Center.

At the Bouffes, Brook operated with three alternating casts in the principal roles and no one so far, try as they might, has prised out of him which of the three he prefers. True to the tenets of the theatre he has refused to divide his players into A, B and C teams. And so it is for television. There are three Brook *Carmen* films, all exquisitely photographed by Ingmar Bergman's favourite cinematographer, Sven Nykvist, and all follow the line of the Bouffes du Nord staging with only minimal opening up for film. The only difference is that the theatre itself has disappeared.

On December 7, Channel 4 will see the most voluptuous of the three Carmens, Mlle Delevault. Zehava Gal, musically the most accomplished of the trio, will be screened next year (Peter Brook has insisted that any station buying *Carmen* screens all three versions.) The third, Eva Saurova, provides the subtlest interpretation, turning her José (Laurence Dale, who also sings opposite Zehava Gal) almost into a schoolboy initiated into sex. Howard Hensel, by contrast, on December 7 is a rough, unshaven squaddie who knows the sexual score backwards. And there is part of Brook intention: to show the different faces of the woman and the work.

Merimée comes above Bizet's librettists, Meilhac and Halevy, on the credit titles for Brook's film. And so he should. He was very much to the fore in the best and most famous of recent Bizet stagings, that by Piero Faggioni at the Edinburgh Festival in 1977, where in the opera as in the novel the story was told principally through the eyes of Don José, who happened to be sung by Placido Domingo if you caught the right night.

In Jean Luc Godard's *Prénom: Carmen*, which has a screening at the London Film Festival tonight before a commercial release at the Chelsea Cinema early next year, Merimée is out of sight. So too is Bizet, apart from the Habanera hummed at a couple of quiet moments – a typical Godard in-joke. Beethoven provides the music and Godard provides himself, as a film director trying to finance his next movie, plus Maruschka Detmers as Carmen X, a member of a terrorist gang. Miss Detmers bares her breasts a lot, and very attractive they are, but she does not get very near Merimée.

Carlos Saura takes rather close order in his film *Carmen*: he after all is Spanish. It has had a lengthy and critically approved run in Paris and makes it toward the bottom of *Variety's* current weekly list of top-grossing films an America; it opens at the Curzon Cinema in the West End on February 10 next year. There cinemagoers will find themselves back in the world of ballet with a choreographer (Antonio Gaddes) searching for a ballerina (Laura del Sol) to play the leading role in his next creation, which is of course *Carmen*.

A great deal of the film takes place in rehearsal rooms at the barre, with the choreographer gradually taking on the mantle of José with much the same results as in old Seville. Guitars strum loudly. But there *is* Bizet on the sound track, taken from a very venerable recording.

Purists though may prefer to wait for Bizet plain, or possibly not so plain as Francesco Rosi is the director, for a *Carmen* due to emerge next spring with Placido Domingo as José and Ruggero Raimondi as Escamillo. Work is still going on in the recording studios – Maazel is the conductor so there is likely to be an opera set as well as a movie – but a great deal of attention is likely to be paid to the girl in the title role, Julia Migenes-Johnson. Miss Migenes, before she added the Johnson to her name, had a considerable success at the Vienna Volksoper. She is small, immensely energetic, full of temperament and on screen could have just that "strange and wild beauty" Merimée described.

He saw it first when he spent some time travelling in Spain around 1830 after the excesses of Paris had proved too much for him. He stopped at a country inn for a bowl of gazpacho. The girl who served it, Merimée recorded in his diaries, was called Carmencita. Merimée was much struck, and that is how the legend began.

John Higgins

Philip Howard

Your host, the hack, sounding off

The lodger (non-rent paying) is in town all week on a charm course. You could say that in his case it is too late, since Polyphemus, a savage whose heart had little knowledge of just laws or ordinances, had more charm, even when old and smelly, than the lodger. You could say that a week is not long enough. You could say that it would be more profitable to send him on a course of home economics or teach him about the just laws and ordinances of paying rent. But what is peculiarly vexing about the charm course is that we are paying for it.

The lodger is an airline pilot. He is among 12,000 of the company's employees who are "in touch with the public" who are being put through a course called "Putting People First", devised for the company by an American firm of consultants. This ghastliness takes place in the Concorde Centre in Southall, and participants are encouraged to wear badges inscribed "I Fly the World's Favourite Airline". The message appears to be the unexceptionable one, "Be nice to the passengers, because they pay your wages." But the message is promoted by a combination of simple-minded managerial psychology and impertinent exhortations about their private lives that would come more appropriately from some demagogue of the moral minority.

Par exemple in the book of the course there is a chapter on strokes. I am all for pilots not having strokes, particularly when they are flying me. But those are not the sort of strokes the ineffable American management consultants have in mind. They define strokes as any kind of attention you can get from or give to another person. "Strokes are essential for a relaxed and happy life. In the Western world where food is plentiful, strokes are the greatest human need . . ." Contnd p. 94.

And on page 94 they give the lodger an exercise entitled "Do you get the strokes you deserve?", in which they invite him to award himself marks on such statements as "I am good in bed." Well, I can answer that one. What the lodger is in bed is downright untidy. But what in heaven has that got to do with his ability as a pilot? What I want from my pilots is that they should take me off and put me down safely, concentrating on the job in hand rather than the *Times* crossword between the points. I do not wish to know about their body language, their eye contacts, or whether they are kind to children. I am indignant that the lodger has spent all week, no doubt at vast expense, and partly at my expense on such fatuous and otiose games.

He says that all airlines now offer the same service at the same price, so that the only hope of attracting more customers is by sucking up to them. The best way of attracting tired businessmen, who form the majority of his passengers, he says (the lodger is a male chauvinist as well as a non-rent payer), is by sacking all the male stewards, and employing only beautiful girls as cabin staff. Topless, I ask? And how about tired businesswomen?

I can see that flying is no fun. The other day a fat cat businessman in first class carried on smoking his Havana through breakfast. Other passengers complained. Eventually the lodger, in gold braid like a bogus admiral, was summoned from the driving seat. Exercising eye contact and service-giver's authority, the lodger asked, deferentially: "Would you mind putting out your cigar during breakfast, sir?" The fat cat inhaled, and blew a smoke-ring in his face.

The lodger could have thumped him: a captain is in sole command. He could have taken the cigar and stubbed it out in the airline scrambled egg. What he did was take the line of least resistance, and retreat to his cabin as if he had just remembered something important that had to be done.

People behave in an odd way in aeroplanes, because they are scared. It is the Icarus instinct, an atavistic feeling that humans are not meant to fly. I know that if I am ever travelling by plane and hear the announcement, "This is your captain, the lodger, speaking", I shall make my excuse and leave. But, with this charm school nonsense, I reckon it is going to be more agreeable to go by coach anyway.

Wanted: a stately home tax loophole

To judge from Lord Charteris's presentation of the 24th annual report by the National Memorial Heritage Fund yesterday, we might assume that all was well with our heritage. With an investment income of £1.5m (from its £24m capital), topped up by government grants of £3m, the Fund intervened successfully, and wholly within its budget, to purchase for the nation two Poussins (one for the Walker Art Gallery, one for the National); a Stubbs; a clock by Thomas Tompion for £150,000; more of Exmoor to add to the protected park; Kinder Scout and Studley Royal (including Fountains Hall) for the National Trust; the Earl Haig papers for the National Library of Scotland, and further estate land around Castle Coole, Nothern Ireland.

It also refaced Castle Coole, and purchased with endowment Charles Rennie Mackintosh's masterpiece, The Hill House, Helensburgh, for the National Trust for Scotland.

That, at least, was the picture until April 1983: but those feeling reasonably happy might not have spotted that there was only one stately home among the list and that Hever Castle was saved from being a charge on the Fund only by outside intervention. Outside intervention, however, is never certain; and events since April indicate that the Fund's record of success may well be its last without significantly more government aid. For already, halfway through its new financial year, current commitments would not only exhaust the Fund's entire current annual budget but threaten its very existence by the need to eat into capital reserves.

The Fund's terms of reference are to purchase for the nation, as part of the national memorial for the war dead, items of heritage which are of the highest quality; which are at grave risk; and which require significant financial assistance. The simple fact is that the happy figures for 1982/3 do not reflect the urgency rate – even though the Government's contribution to the Fund this year was augmented by a mad March present of £5m.

Two stately homes arrived, as it were, simultaneously: Calke Abbey in Leicestershire, requiring some £7m for purchase and endowment; the other, Belton Hall, Lincolnshire, requiring some £8m.

The Fund offered to help Belton, which was immediately at risk, and had to let Calke Abbey go. It also offered the National Trust for Scotland £2m for Fyvie Castle in Aberdeenshire, one of Scotland's ten outstanding monuments, but the outcome is still uncertain.

Looking ahead, the picture darkens. As SAVE keeps reminding us, great stately homes are rotting and crumbling from Cornwall to Caithness. Many of the fashionable postwar uses for such buildings have been eliminated by rising petrol costs or changes in social patterns: health spas, hotels, teacher training colleges, minor prep schools, TB clinics and even trade union headquarters are no longer easy options.

Indeed, the Fund, firmly believes that "the most effective and economical guardians of the National Heritage are its private owners. Our objective is to retain the characteristics of a house as a setting for the outstanding works of art it contains... Wherever possible, we seek to preserve an outstanding house and its contents intact". Not, one might add, that health spas, teacher training colleges and minor prep schools managed to do that.

Of immediate concern are yet more outstanding monuments; Weston Park, Staffs – a house of 1671 in an area not over-endowed with fine stately homes open to the public; Thirlestane Castle, Lauder – a wonderful fifteenth and sixteenth-century confection transformed by Sir William Bruce (he of Holyrood) and David Bryce, in the seventeenth and nineteenth centuries; and Robert Adam's masterpiece, Kedleston Hall, Derbyshire. Looking beyond, it is not difficult to identify houses where future concern may be appropriate: Ightam Moat, Sevenoaks, The House of Gray, by William Adam, Dundee; and Mavisbank, Loanhead, also by Adam. Two other Scots examples recently passed by with no possible action: Guthrie Castle, Angus, and the magnificently restored Earlshall, near St Andrews. Many of these great houses no longer have sufficient estate income to pay for their maintenance. Many former estates are impossibly large and inconvenient. Yet, collectively, their survival is central to our heritage.

Even once financial help has been offered and accepted, problems remain. Sometimes there is an impetus to part with one of the family's collection – such as, say, a major collection of manuscripts or drawings. The fiscal situation in Britain, unlike that in the US, militates against people being able to open their houses or donate their treasures, or subscribe to charity as a way of reducing tax. Furthermore, many of these great houses are remote from public transport. If they are to be preserved for the nation, that part of the nation which is unemployed (which might best enjoy such places) is just that part which could probably not afford to reach or enter them.

The National Memorial Heritage Fund, in the long run, would prefer to see its job rendered unnecessary by tax changes, which would prevent houses of note having to be offered on the open market; and which would provide assured maintenance in return for a genuinely popular access. At the moment, a small number of stately homes are suffering from over-use and exposure: adding more to the pool would spread the load, widen the opportunity, and prevent the type of fire-rescue operation currently required to prevent the complete break-up of a great artistic estate. Perhaps it is significant that the Fund's director, Dr Brian Lang, is a doctor of anthropology whose former skills lay in recording and protecting endangered species.

Charles McKean

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TIMES PAST THE TIMES

P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

KICKING THE FATAL HABIT

It is with a gleam of success in its eyes that the Royal College of Physicians returns this week to its battle against smoking for the fourth time. Campaigners against the fatal habit complain with reason that it is hard to counter the tobacco industry's lavish expenditure on promotion when their resources are so much smaller. This week's report confesses gloomily that "Evaluation of individual anti-smoking campaigns shows that none has ever produced more than a transient effect". The graph dips for a few months and then recovers. But repeated campaigns and persistent pressure have at last had a cumulative effect against the colourful allurements of the hoardings; in the past few years the number of cigarettes smoked in Britain and the number of people smoking them have both begun to move decisively downwards.

The harm that they do to health can manifest itself ten or twenty years later, so the full effects of the change in habit have yet to be felt. But a clear downward trend in the incidence of lung cancer among men of all ages (the situation is more complex among women) already enables the campaigners to point to results that are far more extensive and impressive than ever before. The change in public attitudes is obvious everywhere: smoking in public in the vicinity of non-smokers is increasingly seen as bad manners even where it is not prohibited outright.

But many thousands still die prematurely every year because of diseases associated with smoking. It shortens the lives of far more people than crime, suicide, drinking, even road accidents (for every young man who will die on the roads, forty will die early because they smoke). A scourge so destructive requires society to make strenuous efforts to combat it. But if the scourge appears to be in decline in any case, the authorities may feel that the pressure is off them to assist the process.

Smoking may still be by far the most important avoidable source of disease in Britain, and disease associated with it may still be higher here than in most developed countries. But the smoker's vote is not insignificant, while the revenue he provides to the Treasury is very significant indeed. It would be hard indeed to find a source of revenue to replace it. However, it is probably less these calculations than a straightforward reluctance to interfere in market processes which has caused this Government to be too supine about discouraging smoking. Its informal treaty of 1982 with the industry effectively gave up the attempt to bring in any further controls on promotion before December 1985.

As a simple issue of personal freedom it would be quite wrong as well as dangerously impracticable to try to ban cigarette sales outright. The individual should be given latitude for dangerous and even foolish activities that endanger only himself (much has been made recently of "passive smoking", but on present evidence that remains more a matter of offence than serious medical risk). But society is fully justified in restraining advertising, where temptations are still so clever, pervasive and subtle, and in ensuring that those who are offended by the practice need not suffer in public places.

Newspapers are in an ambiguous position in calling for extra controls on cigarette advertising, because we carry them ourselves, along with many other advertisements for products and political positions that we do not endorse. There is a case to be made on freedom of speech grounds for not supressing publicity that is within the law. It is not inconsistent to call at the same time for the law to be made stronger. The example of Norway shows that a complete ban can have a dramatic effect on consumption, but at the very least there is a need for more limits to the scale of advertising, and for greater prominence to be given to the warning messages that it should carry. The guidelines intended to rule out publicity that identifies cigarette smoking with wealth, sexual success and the healthy life have only provoked the advertisers to greater feats of ingenious inference.

The question of sponsorship is more difficult. It enables the industry to present itself indirectly in association with the healthy pursuits that it has agreed not to exploit in its advertising, and to gain space on television where it is technically banned. The sponsorship is of real benefit to the sporting and cultural worlds, and would be sorely missed. The answer may be to allow sponsorship under a manufacturer's name, but not sponsorship that directly promotes a brand-name. Public policy towards cigarette promotion of all kinds should be one of a steady and progressive diminution in publicity for a product which, unlike alcohol, fast cars and other products which can be abused, causes in normal use both addiction and sharply increased vulnerability to killing disease. The diminution in reliance on the revenue from advertising and sales will have to come too.

ARMS FOR LATIN AMERICA

The Prime Minister recently warned the United States that a resumption of arms sales to Argentina, before a formal cessation of hostilities, would be strongly resented in Britain. The Americans have now riposted by expressing concern about possible British arms sales to Chile, on the grounds that such sales, by increasing tensions in the Beagle Channel, may hinder Dr Alfonsin's new government in its task of reforming and reducing the Argentine armed forces, and that Chile has a repressive regime.

Arms sales invite posturing, and these exchanges are unconvincing. The Prime Minister must be aware, first, that Dr Alfonsin is not in the buying vein; furthermore, that if he were, he has many alternative suppliers apart from the Americans, some of them in Europe; last, that, as Mrs Kirkpatrick has stated, it is unlikely that Washington, which has voted for a resumption of Anglo-Argentine negotiations, will long maintain an ineffective embargo against an elected government in Buenos Aires.

Mr Reagan must be aware that jets and destroyers have little to do with repression, that this hasty concern for General Pinochet's record is implausible, and that Britain has for long supplied arms to Chile. This fact is well known in Argentina, and it is doubtful whether the sale of 12 Jaguars, some Sea Eagle missiles and HMS Antrim would deflect the Argentine government from its chosen diplomatic courses.

Sovereign nations buy arms. Contrary to popular belief, most Latin American governments are proportionately low spenders on defence. If Chile chooses to buy this equipment, despite the straits in which her economy finds itself, that is by and large a Chilean affair. Dr Alfonsin may reduce Argentina's military budget, but he is not going to reduce it to nothing. The current North Atlantic fuss about arms for the South should be reduced to its proper proportions: the Anglo-Saxons should abandon their unrealistic poses of tutelage.

That done, there is still cause for comment. Given the British government's attitude to Latin American indebtedness, it is contradictory that this country should encourage the purchase of arms by Chile, the country with the highest per capita debt in the region, while refusing export credit guarantees to Brazil. The contradiction will be noted abroad, even if it escaped notice here.

It is also true that in the wake of the Falklands War it is easy to represent conventional arms sales as symbolic gestures, and that it is naive to suppose that this does not apply when Britain is the seller.

The Prime Minister is better known in Latin America than any British leader since Churchill. The episode that made her so famous – and she has her admirers as well as her detractors there – also exposed the inadequacies of successive British governments in their Latin American policies. The Prime Minister will not be hurried, and should not be, into ill-timed gestures, but British policy should not be allowed to slip back into the sort of unimaginative righteous torpor that this current trans-Atlantic argument suggests. What is worrying about it is not so much its content, but the suspicion that no one is thinking hard enough about anything else.

THE GREENING OF GREENHAM

The disclosure by the Ministry of Defence that its operational nuclear bases are really undercover nature reserves takes a bit of digesting. It is particularly disorienting for the Greens. If the Stone Curlew nests within 25 metres of the main runway at Lakenheath, and if Greenham Common, inside the wire, gives shelter to the threatened Purple Emperor butterfly, the doctrine of deterrence acquires a new dimension. Nuclear weapons that serve to check the global expansion of chemical-based agriculture may have something to be said for them after all.

But has the Ministry thought through its policy? Has this cell of conservationists whose existence is now revealed at the heart of the nation's defence effort been positively vetted? The question has to be asked because of the serious consequences of the operation's falling into the wrong hands.

As every student of the subject knows the law is more expeditious in the investigation of offences against birds than offences against the person. A police constable has power under warrant to search premises for purloined birds' eggs but not for a murder weapon. The Police and Criminal Evidence Bill is in process of removing that anomaly. But the ingrained bias in the criminal law, which is a cultural bias, will remain.

Mr Heseltine may have a policy of shooting people who come too close to nuclear weapons, but the extent of his licence to do so is uncertain. No such uncertainty surrounds the offences and penalties laid down in the Wild Life and Countryside Act, 1981.

It has been announced that the tumuli in which the cruise missiles of Greenham Common will be parked pending deployment are to be planted by the Ministry's conservation corps with an assortment of heathers. The ostensible purpose is to provide alternative accommodation for the Purple Emperors whose accustomed scrub has been cleared in order to open a field of fire towards the peace bivouacs on the perimeter. But can one be satisfied with that explanation? May not the purpose of the heather, a plant alien to the Hampshire Downs, be to entice into the vicinity of the missiles animals which are under the protection of the law?

If the Natterjack Toad were to colonize the cradle of the missile launcher, or the Dormouse – it is known to have infiltrated the base already – or if Horseshoe Bats were to suspend themselves from the tail plane what would become of the state of readiness? It is not only an offence to kill or injure those animals. Any person "who disturbs any such animal while it is occupying a structure or place which it uses for shelter or protection" shall be guilty of an offence. We all use cruise for protection. It might be argued that a missile is not a structure, but the argument would be contested and might have to be taken to the House of Lords. Would there be time for that?

The act provides certain limited exceptions, though the exigencies of a nuclear strike are not one of them. In any case they are not available for Bats unless the person has "notified the Nature Conservancy Council of the proposed action or operation and allowed them a reasonable time to advise him as to whether it should be carried out and, if so, the method to be used". No one should underestimate the speed with which the Nature Conservancy Council would respond on notification of the intention to fire a nuclear weapon. All the same it is questionable whether the procedures laid down take adequate account of the delivery time of the SS20, which is ten to eleven minutes.

The Severn barrier

From Dr Geoffrey A. Kellaway

Sir, Mr Richard Cottrell (November 19) is correct in saying that considerable difficulty has been experienced in tunnelling beneath the Severn estuary. However the Severn tunnel was constructed between 1873 and 1886 when tunnelling methods and equipment were much less effective than now. Moreover, the men who built the Severn tunnel had very little prior knowledge of the geological structure and hydrology of the ground in which the operations were to be carried out. Judged by modern standards their site investigations would be regarded as totally inadequate.

There may have been less excuse for failure to ascertain the facts about the route of the CEGB tunnel in the light of the problems which are known locally to be associated with decalcified and fissured carboniferous limestone. Nevertheless this tunnel, like the Severn tunnel, was completed and is in use.

Speaking as a geologist with long experience of engineering geology problems in this region, I feel confident that, given proper site investigation, an orthodox tunnel could be constructed.

Whether a tunnel would be better than a submerged tube is a question of economics, but a tunnel should not be ruled out because of previous inadequacies of site investigation in relation to design.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY A. KELLAWAY,
14 Cranedown,
Lewes,
Sussex.
November 19.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Delusions about rate-capping

From the Chairman of Buckinghamshire County Council

Sir, The needs and resources of every local authority are different and if Mr Geoffrey Finsberg (November 17) accepts the presumption, as it seems he does, that a few people in the Department of Environment can decide exactly what each authority should spend, he deludes himself. The present shambles on block grant shows they cannot.

Finance officers are already spending endless expensive hours on the counterproductive and wasteful process of unravelling at a local level the tangle created for us in Whitehall, which the electorate has no hope of understanding.

Should a general rate-capping scheme ever be applied the bureaucratic cost and confusion which would result is something no Conservative could contemplate with equanimity.

The Government now has a large majority, including members who have a wide knowledge of modern local government. It should and can afford the time to take a long hard look, as well as advice from those experienced in the field of local politics, to see how to achieve local accountability through the ballot box.

While the selective rate-limitation scheme may have immediate attractions to the short-sighted, it is a further step towards central authoritarian power and no substitute for electoral accountability on local matters.

Our Secretary of State may call for reductions in expenditure, but others may require the reverse and I shall be surprised if Parliament does not have the wisdom to apply rigorous statutory controls over the power of selection.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER PARKER-JERVIS,
Chairman,
Buckinghamshire County Council,
County Hall,
Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire.

Plea for disabled

From Mr J. Beckingham and others

Sir, We, all of whom have intimate knowledge of the prejudice and discrimination suffered by disabled people, implore Her Majesty's Government not to block the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Amendment) Bill when it returns to the House of Commons for a second reading on Friday of this week.

Yours faithfully,
J. BECKINGHAM (Chairman, Disablement Income Group),
ALAN M. DAVEY (Secretary, Arthritis Care),
Rodney Clark (Director, The National Association for Deaf/Blind and Rubella Handicapped),
MOYNA P. GILBERTSON (Executive Director, Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus),
DUNCAN GUTHRIE (Director, Disabilities Study Unit),
LINDA LENNARD (The Disability Alliance),
MARGARET LOREK (Director, Greater London Association for Disabled People),
DAVID MANN (President, National Federation of the Blind of the United Kingdom),
C. H. MOORE (Executive Director, John Grooms Association for the Disabled),
BRIAN RIX (Secretary-General, Royal Society for Mentally Handicapped Children and Adults),
JOYCE SMITH (Chairman, The Spastics Society),
ROGER SYDENHAM (Director, The Royal National Institute for the Deaf),
A. VERNEY (General Secretary, The British Deaf Association),
JOHN WALFORD (General Secretary, The Multiple Sclerosis Society),
c/o Greater London Association for Disabled People,
1 Thorpe Close, W10.
November 22.

Historic buildings

From Mr Andrew Selkirk

Sir, Many seem to be writing to you to applaud the GLC's Historic Buildings Division and its highly expensive new archaeological service for outer London. Can I give a view from the grass roots by looking at the two boroughs of Camden and Barnet?

In Labour-controlled Camden the council has been most lavish in its support for professional archaeologists, but there is no archaeological society. In Tory-controlled Barnet, on the other hand, there are no professional archaeologists, but there is an exceptionally strong and active archaeological society, which carries out all the necessary rescue archaeology at no expense to the ratepayers. Indeed, they recently even carried out a major excavation on Hampstead Heath, a few yards over the border in Camden.

Which is preferable: a strong and active local society and no professionals, or a large number of professionals and no local society?

In the long run, the only way we can preserve our heritage is by getting grassroots support. It is all too easy to believe that the past is something that can be "left to the professionals". It can't; it belongs to all of us, and unless we have a strong network of local societies, and of people on the spot who care about the past, then the grassroots support will vanish.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW SELKIRK,
9 Nassington Road, NW3.

The Mosley papers

From Mr A. S. Newens

Sir, Perusal of the documents released by the Public Record Office reveals the weakness of the justification, advanced by the Attorney General for the 100-year closure when I first raised the issue in February, that they included information which could cause distress to or endanger named individuals or their immediate descendants and material which could not be released on security grounds.

None of the records opened go beyond 1937. There is therefore nothing on the immediate prelude to or the early years of the Second World War. The transcript of the interrogation of Sir Oswald Mosley before the Birkett Tribunal in 1940 and other documents relating to his arrest under Order 18B have, in fact, been retained by the Home Office by means of the loophole provided by 3(4) of the Public Records Act 1958.

Evidence already available makes it clear that many prominent figures in Britain during these years agreed in essence with Mosley in pressing for a settlement with Hitler – even after war was declared – which would have left Germany completely free to turn on the USSR. This was common knowledge in ruling Nazi circles and some authorities believe it explains Hitler's decision to halt Field Marshal Kleist's panzer forces outside Dunkirk on May 24, 1940, when they could conceivably have cut the escape route for the British Expeditionary Force and inflicted complete humiliation on this country.

It may well be that the full record will show that the desire within the British establishment to reach an accommodation with Nazism and use it to crush Communism was the main reason for the development of the German military threat to terrifying proportions, and not the pacifism and failure to rearm which are so often blamed.

The documents which are still to be released could shed light on these vital issues and it would be scandalous for them to remain closed on the pretext that their release will cause distress or threaten national security.

Yours etc,
STAN NEWENS,
The Leys,
18 Park Hill,
Harlow,
Essex.

Soviet response to US missiles

From Mr Spartak Beglov

Sir, You report (November 23) the green light given by the West German Bundestag to the deployment of Pershing-2 and cruise missiles. Serious international repercussions will be triggered off by the deployment of United States first-strike missiles in Europe.

First, general strategic stability will be weakened because the now existing military balance will be upset in the most sensitive area of East-West relations. The new generation of weapons are capable of provoking nuclear war in such a way that either side may find itself in a situation where it will have neither an opportunity, nor time to retain control over the developments.

Second, a new round of the arms race will be inevitable. The Soviet Union and its Warsaw treaty allies will have to take measures in response to the deployment of weapons which give the United States a capability to launch a strategic nuclear strike against the Soviet Union from the nearest positions in Western Europe.

At present the Soviet Union does not have this opportunity in respect of the United States. Depriving the Pentagon of the temptation to bring these weapons into action means giving an adequate answer, both on the operational-tactical plane and in respect of United States territory.

The Americans must inevitably feel the difference between the situation which existed before the deployment of their missiles in Western Europe and the post deployment situation in which they will be faced with a new level of threat commensurate with the threat they inflict on the USSR.

Third, a blow will be dealt at the Geneva talks. The Soviet delegation has declared on the cessation of the current round of the talks without the fixation of any date for their resumption. The situation at the talks on strategic nuclear weapons is being complicated as well.

Fourth, the very attitude of the West to some agreements with the East, which now form the basis of detente, will be questioned even more. West Germany is committed under the Moscow and other eastern treaties to contribute in every way to the assertion of the principle of non-use of force, and of renunciation of the threat of force in relations with eastern neighbours.

Soviet leaders have stressed that they will continue to work for these invariable goals of strengthening peace and curbing the arms race in a much more difficult situation.

The Soviet Union will continue cooperating with all forces that are coming out for the ultimate triumph of reason. For the sake of this it will be necessary to review the still existing foundations of East-West cooperation and all factors in East-West relations, which were engendered by detente and which still maintain its viability.

In other words, it will be necessary to find all possible means of compensating for the slow-down of detente in the military sphere by the consolidation of those forces that stand for the deepening of cooperation in the economic, cultural and political aspects of European detente.

A conference on confidence-building measures, security and disarmament in Europe which opens in Stockholm next January offers a good opportunity for demonstrating the alternative to the explosive situation created by the process of oversaturating Western Europe with US nuclear weapons.

It is with the express purpose of preventing the worst from happening that the Soviet Union and the Warsaw treaty organisation see their duty to Europe in depriving, by their counter-measures, the owners of Pershing-2s and cruise missiles of any temptation to risk a nuclear catastrophe.

Yours sincerely,
SPARTAK BEGLOV,
Chief Political Observer,
Novosti Press Agency,
4 Zubovski Boulevard,
Moscow.
November 24.

Divisions between Church and state

From the Bishop of Jarrow

Sir, I am not sure what your leading article, "The way of the Cross" (November 21), is saying, but it appears to me to be once again making what I consider a false dichotomy between the individual and the corporate, the public and the private. They are, given various caveats, opposite sides of the same coin; the incarnation.

This, too, applies to areas such as the Establishment, which both needs to be redeemed, but is also the instrument of redemption.

This is part, I believe, of what Archbishop John Habgood was saying at York last Friday. Obviously there are matters of division between the faith and the world, between Church and state, but your leading article seems to me to be muddling the dividing lines.

Yours faithfully,
†MICHAEL JARROW,
Melkridge House,
Gilesgate, Durham.

From the Archdeacon of Oxford

Sir, Christians of all kinds must be glad that you are ready to devote a long leading article to the issues raised by the Archbishop of York's enthronement sermon. I suspect, however, that I am not alone in questioning your claim that what you describe there is "the way of the Cross".

Your insistence upon the individual and his struggles, eloquent though it is, fails to do justice to the Christian understanding of God as Trinity. This doctrine points to the conviction that the most important of all truths about God is that he is "relatedness". Human beings are therefore most perfectly conforming to the image of God not when they are alone but when they are in relationship.

Communication from God to a person is normally through another person, so the knowledge of God is mediated through the life of the community. It is therefore a contradiction to treat such a gift as a private intellectual or spiritual possession.

Th "way of the Cross" is therefore no private pilgrimage: It is the road by which we learn the costliness of relationships, the paradox that only when we respond to God by giving our lives away do we truly find them.

This is the way God showed himself to us in Christ. He did it for all to see on a hill outside Jerusalem. May we not therefore call the resulting faith "public"?

Yours faithfully,
FRANK WESTON,
Archdeacons's Lodgings,
Christ Church,
Oxford.

From Rear-Admiral J. E. Dyer-Smith

Sir, As Dr Slack (November 23) writes, your leader of November 21 *was* extraordinary – in its boldness as well as in its context.

It may, as your critics argue, have had little to do with theology, but it had a heartening relevance to the experience of so many of us of disparate persuasions, that when the chips are down – on the battlefield, in acute moral crisis or at a time of savage bereavement – it is the faith constructed from the ashes of inner conflict – the way of the Cross – that enables us to hold on by the fingertips and to hope for better times.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN E. DYER-SMITH,
15 Saint Cross Back Street,
Winchester,
Hampshire.

Cyprus troubles

From Professor A. A. M. Bryer

Sir, Cyprus has troubles enough without Roger Scruton in *The Times* (November 22). Anyone can get their dates wrong, but to wish upon that unfortunate island not only a patriarchate, but an hereditary patriarchate which is somehow also democratically elective, is the last straw.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY BRYER,
33 Crosbie Road,
Birmingham.
November 22.

Settle-Carlisle line

From Mr Andrew Connell

Sir, As your correspondent, Alan Whitehouse, points out (feature, November 17), British Rail has been driven into a corner in order to sustain the case for the strategic decision to close the Settle-Carlisle line.

The truth is that this line serves an important social function both in meeting local needs and providing travellers from all over Britain and overseas with a magnificently scenic route, inaccessible in places by road, and totally outside the range of any other form of public transport.

Its revenue-earning potential is formidable: despite poor timing and half-hearted marketing, services along the Settle-Carlisle line were packed throughout the summer and trains had to be increased from four to six or seven-coach size.

Moreover, the line is an indispensable part of Britain's rail network. On the morning that the closure notice was published trains were passing through Appleby station both north and southbound every few minutes. Yet again there had been a power failure on the electrified line north of Preston, causing large-scale diversions along the Settle-Carlisle line. Q.E.D.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
ANDREW CONNELL,
36 Barrowmoor Road,
Appleby,
Cumbria.
November 17.

Better bets for Calke Abbey?

From Mr Nicholas Baker, MP for Dorset North (Conservative)

Sir, Lord Gibson, Chairman of the National Trust, makes in his letter about Calke Abbey (November 21) a number of assumptions which ought to be questioned.

First, the quality of building and contents of Calke Abbey do not, for all the interest of a house where the interior has remained unchanged for many years, come into the same category as, say, Belton House.

Second, there is an assumption that public money granted to the National Heritage Memorial Fund should be an automatic source of funds for the National Trust. Lord Charteris has often stated that this fund is not a milch cow but a safety net. The trustees in their wisdom have worked wonders for the heritage, often in partnership with others.

The National Trust already appears to have been the largest single recipient of NHMF money. In addition to £8m for Belton House, there was £2m for Studley Royal (Fountains Abbey), £1.5m for Canons Ashby and at least two other grants of more than £250,000.

No doubt the trustees will continue to give generous support to the trust, but Lord Gibson should not assume that the fund can be tapped whenever the trust seeks to make an expensive acquisition.

Third, I find disturbing Lord Gibson's implied suggestion that the National Trust is the main or usual candidate for houses such as Calke Abbey. The National Trust must be selective about its acquisitions and to contemplate even one major rescue operation a year would be to change the nature of the National Trust and to strain the resources of the NHMF.

I suggest we have not heard enough about other ways of securing the future of Calke Abbey and the provision of other financial or fiscal assistance to this end.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS BAKER,
House of Commons.
November 23.

Video violence

From Mr David Holbrook

Sir, Mr Butterworth (November 16) is confusing reality and culture. Of course one learns from reality and I too have been exposed as a young man to corpses and mutilation in war – and I hope I learnt from that horrible experience that we must work hard to control human hate.

Pornography, however, belongs to the use of symbolism for the purposes of entertainment and this belongs to a very complex process, by which we try to relate to reality through the imagination and the "inner life".

The excitement to which Professor Mills (November 16) refers, which he believes releases certain chemicals in the bloodstream, may in pornography be generated by the feeling that the viewer is taking from others something they do not wish to give. That is, it is a form of theft of privacy, a violation of the secret body life of human beings, what some call visual rape.

In plainer terms, since (as the Williams committee noted) there is no individual, personal, element, such as we know in love, what pornography teaches is lust – the impulse to express contempt for others and the excitements of triumphing over them. This vicious instruction is disguised by the apparent "erotic" content: but the behaviour sometimes of people in the pornography industry seems to make it clear that pornography is eroticised hate.

Culture *teaches*, as Professor Raymond Williams emphasised in his important book, *Communications*. Moreover, culture always has a certain authority, so the very toleration of sadistic and insulting pornography also teaches the population at large that lust is acceptable.

To teach through a powerful visual culture that lust is an acceptable mode of existence is not reconcilable with the democratic way of life, as we are now discovering, as the fallacies of the "permissive" position begin to be exposed, not least by imitation among the less stable members of society.

Yours &c,
DAVID HOLBROOK,
Denmore Lodge,
Brunswick Gardens,
Cambridge.
November 16.

From Dr Malcolm Weller

Sir, Professor Mills's suggestion (November 16) that violent pornography can be addictive, because high arousal is associated with the release of endogenous opiods (endorphins and enkephalins) is equally true of rugby – a fact that seems to be appreciated by public schools.

Yours faithfully,
MALCOLM WELLER,
30 Arkwright Road,
Hampstead, N W 3.
November 17.

Maternal pride

From Lord Allen of Abbeydale

Sir, I notice an increasing tendency (from which you yourself, Sir, have not been immune) to refer to the Westminster Parliament as the Mother of Parliaments.

It is perhaps worth recalling that what John Bright said was that "England is the Mother of Parliaments".

Yours faithfully,
ALLEN OF ABBEYDALE
House of Lords.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

CLARENCE HOUSE
November 24: Lieutenant-Colonel L. D. Wood today had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Honorary Colonel, University of London Contingent Officers' Training Corps, upon relinquishing his appointment as Commanding Officer of the Corps.

Lieutenant-Colonel N. J. Claypoole also had the honour of being received by Her Majesty upon assuming his appointment as Commanding Officer of the University of London Contingent Officers' Training Corps.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this afternoon visited the Westminster Children's Society at Hyde Park Barracks to mark the eightieth Anniversary of the Society.

Lady Elizabeth Basset and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief, The King's Regiment, was present this evening at a Reception given by Past and Present Officers of the Regiment at The Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea.

Lady Elizabeth Basset and Captain Alastair Aird were in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 24: The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Chancellor of the University of London, this evening attended the Foundation Day Celebrations at the Institute of Education, Bedford Way, London, WC1 where Her Royal Highness was received upon arrival by the Vice-Chancellor of the University (Professor Randolph Quirk).

The Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 24: The Prince and Princess of Wales this morning visited the Waltham Forest Asian Centre, Walthamstow, London, E17.

Mr David Roycroft and Mrs George West were in attendance.

His Royal Highness, attended by the Hon Edward Adeane, this afternoon viewed an exhibition by John Ward at the Maas Gallery, Clifford Street, London, W1.

The Prince and Princess of Wales were entertained at dinner by His Excellency the High Commissioner for Canada and Mrs Donald Jamieson at 12 Upper Brook Street, London, W1.

The Hon Edward Adeane and Miss Anne Beckwith-Smith were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 24: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, as President of Barnardo's, this afternoon attended a Luncheon at the Savoy Hotel and presented the 1983 Champion Children of the Year Awards.

The Hon Mrs Whitehead was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 24: The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester today visited Northern Ireland. His Royal Highness as Colonel-in-Chief, visited units of the Royal Pioneer Corps. The Duchess of Gloucester opened a new extension at Fleming Fulton School and as Patron attended a Luncheon given by Women Caring Trust. In the afternoon Her Royal Highness visited the new Exhibition Gallery at the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum.

Their Royal Highnesses travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

Lieutenant Colonel Sir Simon Bland and Mrs Euan McCorquodale were in attendance.

YORK HOUSE,
ST JAMES'S PALACE
November 24: The Duke of Kent, as President, this evening attended the inaugural reception of the Business and Technician Education Council which was held at the Reform Club, Pall Mall, London.

Sir Richard Buckley was in attendance.

The Dean and Chapter of Peterborough wish to restore a chapel in memory of Robert Wright Stopford, Bishop of Peterborough 1956-1961 and Bishop of London 1961-1973. The aim is to raise £5,000. Donations should be made payable to the Dean and Chapter, Peterborough Cathedral (Robert Stopford Memorial), and sent to the Dean, The Deanery, Peterborough PE1 1XS.

A memorial service for Sir Wilfred Sheldon will be held today at 3.30 at the Church of St George the Martyr, Queen Square.

A memorial service for Professor J. L. Hancock will be held today at 11.30 at St Pancras Old Church.

Birthdays today

Lord Devlin, 78; Mr Francis Durbridge, 71; Sir Cosmo Haskard, 67; Professor A. M. Honeyman, 76; Miss Daisy Hyams, 71; Mr R. E. G. Jeeps, 52; Mr Wilhelm Kempff, 88; Mr Tony Neary, 35; Lord Richardson of Duntisbourne, 68; Major-General Sir Peter St Clair-Ford, 78; Mr R. Seifert, 73; Dr Robert Shackleton, 64; Sir John Summerson, 79; Lord Tweedsmuir, 72; Mr Bernard Weatherill, MP, 63; Mr Peter Wright, 57.

Latest wills

Lady Nussey, of East Tanfield, near Ripon, North Yorks, left estate valued at £453,441 net.

Mrs Lilian Beales, of Watford, Herts, left estate valued at £1,240,923 net.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):
Bennett, Mr Peter Alistair, of Isleworth, Middlesex..........£372,366
Farrow, Mr Leonard James, of Solihull, West Midlands.....£247,104

Memorial services

Commander D. Curtis

A memorial service for Commander Dunstan Curtis was held at St Bride's, Fleet Street, yesterday. Prebendary Dewi Morgan officiated. Mrs Lucinda Culver, daughter, read Francis Thompson's "In No Strange Land" and Mr Christopher Curtis, son, read the lesson. Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, gave an address. Among those present were:

Mrs Curtis (widow), Mrs Christopher Curtis (daughter-in-law), Mr Justin Culver (grandson), Comtesse de Chamberet (sister-in-law), Miss Georgia de Chamberet, Mr and Mrs George Curtis, Mr and Mrs Richard Curtis, Mrs Gerald Curtis, Mrs D Maion, Mr Simon Carr, Mr Jeremy Carr, Mr and Mrs J M Swainston, Mrs John Pudney, Mrs J Hall, Mr and Mrs Nicholas Cobbold, Miss Natalia Jimenez, Miss Alejandra Jimenez.

Lord and Lady Reay, Lord Newborough, Lady Roskill, the Hon David Astor, Commander Sir John Eardley-Wilmot, Sir John and Lady Verney, Sir Anthony and Lady Rumbold, Sir Peter Tennant, Sir David Lidderdale, Sir John Beith, Sir Nicolas Cheetham, Sir Jasper and Lady More, Lady Scott-Hopkins, Sir Robin Hooper, Sir Bernard and Lady Burrows, Sir Gilbert Longden, Sir Brooks Richards, Sir Ronald Swayne, Sir Andrew Carnwath, Sir Anthony (Handley) and Lady Lincoln, Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker, Sir Douglas and Lady Busk, Lady Kirk.

Mrs Louis Blom-Cooper, Mr and Mrs Brian Connell, Mrs Kit Minogrio, Mr and Mrs Cosmo Russell, Mrs W le Grice, Mr L A Bridge (national secretary, Coastal Forces Veterans Association), Surgeon-Commander H R Gray, Mr Denis Clarke Hall, Mr Paul Willert (Travellers Club) and Mrs and Mrs Willert, Mr Anthony Rye, Mr Ralph Izzard, Mr Robert Jackson, MEP, MP, and Mrs Jackson, Mr Douglas Hunt (MGB Officers' Association), Mr John Coste (14th MGB Flotilla) and Mrs Coste, Mr W G Brooker (MGB 314) and Mrs Brooker, Mr R Bradley (No 2 Commando), Lieutenant-Commander T G Glanville (30 Commando), Mr J Laurie (St Nazaire Society), Mr Michael Goodwin, Mr and Mrs S Edwards, Miss A Oppé, Mr Euan Graham, Mr and Mrs Peter Tripp, Mr John Priestman (Clerk of the Parliamentary Assembly, Council of Europe at Strasbourg), Mr James Willcox (Clerk of the House of Commons).

Mr Philip Brownrigg, Mr Evan James, Mr Peter Storrs, Mr Kenneth Lindsay, Mr John May, Mr David Kirk, Professor J H Smith, Dr N Saunders, Mr Wilmot Bennitt (Trinity College, Oxford), Mr and Mrs M Morland, Colonel A McNulty, Mr and Mrs Ivor Porter, Mr John Herbert, Mr and Mrs Stanley Clement-Davies, Mr J F Goble (Herbert Smith and Company) with Mr John Barker, Mr Hedley Maxwell-Wood and Mr Walter Poll, Mr Derek Wise, Mr and Mrs James Mayor, Mr Miles Huntington-Whiteley, Mrs Mordaunt Richards, Dr A D J Farquharson, Mr Charles Romer-Lee, Mrs M Verschoyle, Mr Anthony Verschoyle, Mrs Beville Pain, Mr Tom Heard and Mr and Mrs William Channing.

Forthcoming marriages

Major J. M. Templer and Miss F. E. Drummond

The engagement is announced between Miles Templer, 17th/21st Lancers, son of the late Field Marshall Sir Gerald Templer and of Lady Templer, of London, SW3, and Frederica, eldest daughter of Mr Maldwin Drummond, of Cadland, Hampshire, and of Lady Lawson-Tancred, of Aldborough, Yorkshire.

Mr W. H. Barry and Miss F. J. Williamson

The engagement is announced between William, son of Mr and Mrs P. H. Barry, of Great Warford, Cheshire, and Fiona, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs P. T. Williamson, of Reading, Berkshire.

Mr E. R. S. Baxter and Miss L. K. Vaughan

The engagement is announced between Riou, eldest son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs Paddy Baxter, of Warminster, Wiltshire, and Laura, only daughter of Mr Peter Vaughan, of Morpeth, Northumberland, and Mrs Elizabeth Vaughan, of Hammersmith, London.

Mr H. R. E. Behling and Miss D. A. Terrill

The engagement is announced between Robin, younger son of Mr and Mrs C. R. Behling, of Holland-on-Sea, Essex, and Deborah, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs C. F. G. Terrill, of Worthing, Sussex.

Mr J. C. M. Boyle and Miss J. P. Martin

The engagement is announced between Jon, younger son of Mr and Mrs J. K. Boyle, of Whitchurch, Hampshire, and Janice Philippa, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs R. W. Martin, of Bush Hill Park, Enfield.

Mr P. Brooker and Miss A. M. Langrick

The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mr and Mrs R. W. Brooker, of Leicestershire, and Alison Marie Langrick, formerly of Christchurch, New Zealand, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. E. Trow.

Mr K. Crossley and Miss C. J. Reed

The engagement is announced between Kim, only son of Mrs C. A. Pasternak and the late Dr Rex Crossley, of Combe, Oxfordshire, and Caroline, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs R. M. Reed, of 1 Elm Grove, Thorpe Bay, Essex.

Mr G. A. Dunn and Miss L. G. Romain

The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of George Dunn and Marjorie Benwell, of Prestwick, Ayrshire, and Louise, younger daughter of Gerald and Margaret Romain, of Brighton, Sussex.

Mr M. J. Hartley and Miss D. Lukić

The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs John Hartley, of North Lodge, Royston, Hertfordshire, and Dragana, daughter of Mr Predrag Lukić, of Stockport, Greater Manchester, and Mrs Maria Lukić, of Kensington, London.

Mr G. T. Hogarth and Miss A. E. Kirkwood

The engagement is announced between Garry, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Charles Hogarth, of Mill Hill, London, and Amanda, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs John Kirkwood, of Braughing, Hertfordshire.

Dr H. C. Laing and Miss H. L. Giblin

The engagement is announced between Hugh, younger son of Mr and Mrs A. R. Laing, of Biddenham, Bedfordshire, and Helen, daughter of Mr D. V. Giblin and Mrs I. M. Giblin, of Melbourne, Australia.

Mr C. P. Morgan and Miss C. M. Egan

The engagement is announced between Charles Pearce, elder son of the late Lieutenant-Commander and Mrs Alan Morgan, and Clare Margaret, daughter of Mr Michael Egan, of Belvedere Grove, Wimbledon, and Mrs Guy Harper, of Campden Hill Road, Kensington.

Mr C. J. Page and Miss J. A. Ingram

The engagement is announced between Christopher John, son of Mr L. E. Page, and the late Mrs E. Page, of Fareham, Hampshire, and Jane Alyson, daughter of Mr W. H. B. Ingram and Mrs P. A. Ingram, of Newport, Gwent.

Mr S. V. B. Rabagliati and Miss J. A. Goldup

The engagement is announced between Stephen, younger son of Mr and Mrs A. B. Rabagliati, of Northampton, and Jennifer, daughter of Mr and Mrs B. J. Goldup, of Watford.

Mr J. P. C. Searight, RM and Miss A. E. Hoyland

The engagement is announced between James Searight, Royal Marines, son of Major and Mrs M. P. C. Searight, of Wester Balgedie, Kinross, and Annabel, daughter of Dr and Mrs H. J. Hoyland, of Painswick, Gloucestershire.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Rear Admiral Richard Fitch, Flag Officer Third Flotilla, to be Vice-Admiral from February 24, 1984.

The ... Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the Right Rev J. Fraser McLuskey, meeting the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, at Lambeth Palace yesterday on his ... official visit to London. (Photograph: John Manning).

Luncheon

Joseph Nickerson Husbandry Awards

Sir Joseph and Lady Nickerson were hosts at a luncheon held on November 23, at the Savoy Hotel, London, on the occasion of the presentation of his 1983 awards for "Added Value" by the Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Mrs Peggy Fenner.

Among those present were:

Mr Anthony D Andrews, Sir Alex Alexander, Mr Michael Barker, the Hon Sir Richard Butler, Sir Robert Clark, Mr John Clement, Mrs Margaret Charrington, Mr Denis Chamberlain, Mr Oscar Colburn, Mr Micheal H Caine, Mr Brian L Dummer, Mr James Douglas, Mr Bill Dermott, Mr Jan van Dam, Mr and Mrs Joseph Dickinson, Mr Robert J Dickinson, Mr Marcus S Edmundson, Mr Derek Fraser, Mr Jim B Foxlee, Mrs Greta Fenston, Sir Michael Franklin, Mr and Mrs Lloyd Forster, Mr Peter Giffard, Mr John D M Hearth, Mr Peter Innes, Mr John G Jenkins, Sir Emrys Jones, Mr Rex Jenkinson, Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Sir Peter Macadam, Sir Jeremy Morse, Lord John-Mackie, Mr Charles J Nickerson, Mr Robert J Nickerson, Mr Norman Parker, Mr Wesley Paterson, Sir Francis Pemberton, Sir Henry Plumb, Lord Peart, Mrs Devora Peake, Mr Peter W J Reynolds, Mr Anthony Rosen, Bishop and Mrs Kenneth Riches, Mr and Mrs R Rendall, Mr E J G Smith, Lord Sieff of Brimpton, Mr David C Samworth, Mr Paddy G Shillington, Mr Bill C Thomson, Mr Donald Taylor, Sir Richard Trehane, Mr Roy W Watson, Mr Horace A W Wilkinson and Mr and Mrs Ian Yates.

Meeting

British Italian Law Association

The annual Lord Salmon Lecture was delivered to the British Italian Law Association on November 23 by Professor Antonio La Pergola, a member of the Italian Constitutional Court, who spoke on European Community Law. Mr Carlo E. P. Colombotti was in the chair.

Receptions

English-Speaking Union

The English-Speaking Union Music Council held a reception at Drapers' Hall last night before a piano and cello recital given by Mr Paul Coker and Mr Steven Isserlis in aid of the ESU Music Scholarship Fund. The guests were received by Mrs Edward Norman-Butler, chairman of the music council and Lady Bonham Carter, the guest of honour. Those present included:

Sir Donald Tebbit, Miss Virgina Tebbit; the Algerian Ambassador and Mme Malek, Sir Lennox and Lady Berkeley, the Hon Alastair and Mrs Bruce, Viscount Buckmaster, Mr and Mrs Philip Cranmer, Lord and Lady Gore-Booth, Mr and Mrs Richard Marriot, Mr and Mrs Graham Mitchell, Mr and Mrs Peter Minet, Lord and Lady Moyne, the Hon Claude and Mrs Phillimore, Lord and Lady Sherfield, Mr Robert Strick and Sir Brandon and Lady Rhys Williams.

Institution of Structural Engineers

A service of thanksgiving to mark the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Institution of Structural Engineers was held yesterday at St Lawrence Jewry-next-Guildhall. A reception was held afterwards in Guildhall when the guests were received by Dr Roy Rowe, president, and Mrs Rowe.

Among those present were:

Viscount and Viscountess Caldecote, Lord Banks, Lord Howie of Troon, the Hon Nicholas Ridley, MP, Sir Neville Leigh, Sir George Moseley, Sir Anthony Rawlinson, Sir Ove and Lady Arup, Sir Hugh Wilson, the Lord Mayor of Westminster and Mr Roger Stott, MP.

Dinners

Coopers' Company

The Lord Mayor and Sir John Donaldson, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, were present at the annual livery dinner of the Coopers' Company held last night at Mansion House. The Master, Wing Commander B. A. Saffron, presided and the other speakers were the Lord Mayor, Mr J. F. Howard and Lord Templeman.

Glaziers' Company

Mr P. S. London was installed as Master, and Colonel M. H. Seys-Phillips and Sir William Carter as Upper Warden and Renter Warden respectively at a livery dinner held at Glaziers' Hall last night. Dr Clifford Hawkins replied to the toast of the guests who included:

The Mayor of Southwark, Lord Birdwood, Vice-Admiral Sir Lancelot Bell Davies, the Provost and Vice-Provost of Southwark, Mr John Stokes, MP, Mr A A Dagani, the Masters of the Tobacco Pipe Makers', Scientific Instrument Makers' and Launderers' Companies and the Deputy Master of the Horners' Company.

Manchester Trainee Solicitors' Group

The 175th anniversary dinner of the Manchester Trainee Solicitors' Group, formerly the Manchester Law Students' Society, was held last night in the Midland Hotel, Manchester. Mr David Gandy, president of the group, presided and the other speakers were Mr Justice Eastham and Mr Michael Maguire, QC, Leader of the Northern Circuit.

Service dinners

Fleet Air Arm Officers' Association

The Fleet Air Arm Officers' Association held a dinner to mark the 43rd anniversary of the Battle of Taranto and the Falklands Campaign at the Naval Military Club yesterday. The guest of honour was Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Leach and other guests included some of the men of Taranto and representatives of naval air squadrons which took part in the Falklands campaign.

Royal Marines

Lieutenant-General Sir Steuart Pringle presided at a dinner given by officers of the Royal Marines at the Commando Forces Officers' Mess Plymouth last night.

The guests included:

The Lord Mayor of Plymouth, Mr Justice Sheldon, Admiral Sir Peter Herbert, Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Stanford, Major-General Ingebrigtsen, the Chief Executive of Plymouth and the Master of the Plaisterers' Company.

16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers

The annual officers' dinner of the 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers was held last night at the Dorchester hotel. The Colonel of the Regiment, Colonel H. A. G. Brooke, presided.

Service reunion

The King's Regiment

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief, was present at the annual reunion of officers of The King's Regiment held yesterday at the Duke of York's Headquarters. Colonel Sir Geoffrey Errington, Colonel of the Regiment, attended.

OBITUARY

GENERAL SIR EVELYN BARKER

Distinguished military service

General Sir Evelyn Barker, KCB, KBE, DSO, MC, who died on November 23 at the age of 89, had a distinguished record in both world wars, commanding the army corps which secured the chief members of the post-Hitler Dönitz government in 1945. There after he was GOC-in-C Palestine, in which post he came into the public eye in the aftermath of the blowing up of the King David Hotel in Jerusalem by Jewish Irgun terrorists, when he, somewhat controversially as it turned out, forbade his officers to fraternise with Jews, a step which raised something of a storm in Parliament.



He was an inspiring and popular leader, known in the Army as 'Bubbles' Barker, a name which aptly expressed his effervescent spirit and his puckish sense of humour. When commanding a division he had a habit of doubling about at a speed which his staff found extremely trying to their legs and mind, and in action, the sight of his stocky and sturdy figure, which was often to be seen in the foremost positions, lifted the spirit of his troops.

Evelyn Hugh Barker was born on May 24, 1894, the youngest son of Major General Sir George Barker and the Hon Lady Barker he was educated at Wellington College and was commissioned in the KRRC from Sandhurst in 1913. In the First World War he served with his regiment and on the staff in France, at Salonica, and in South Russia, and was awarded the DSO and MC and twice mentioned in dispatches.

In 1936 he commanded the 2nd Battalion of his regiment in Palestine during the Arab disorders, and in the following year brought it back to England where it was converted into a battalion of motorized infantry as part of the first mobile division in the British Army.

From the outbreak of war in 1939 he commanded the 10th Infantry Brigade in France and in the withdrawal to Dunkirk: then he was promoted major general and held the command of the 54 East Anglian Division for two years in England.

It was in 1943 that he went to the division with which his name will always be closely linked – the 49 (West Riding) Division. He trained this division and commanded it with outstanding success in Normandy and in the subsequent battles. One of his first acts on assuming command was to order that the divisional sign, a rather docile polar bear, with drooped head, should be redesigned, with its head raised aggressively as if seeking its enemies.

In April 1945 he was promoted to the command of the VIII Corps. Under him this corps crossed the Rhine and advanced across Germany to the Baltic, capturing thousands of prisoners and taking into custody the Dönitz Government at Flensburg and sending columns of liberating troops into Denmark.

Barker was then, for nearly a year, Commander and Governor in Schleswig-Holstein, where his administration was marked by firmness and judgment.

In 1946 he succeeded General D'Arcy as GOC-in-C British Troops in Palestine. This appointment required a man of resolution and energy, both of which qualities he possessed.

A few months after his arrival he issued a letter to his officers saying that because of its support for terrorism the Jewish community could not be absolved of responsibility for the outrages that had taken place, culminating in the blowing up of the King David Hotel, and forbidding fraternization with any Jew. Their conduct, he stated, was regarded with "contempt and loathing".

This letter, which was certainly indiscreet, aroused a storm of comment, and Mr Herbert Morrison announced in the House of Commons that the Government dissociated themselves from the terms in which was couched. When Barker's action was further condemned by members of Parliament, the Speaker ruled that, although it was not out of order to attack a general officer commanding in the field, it was to be deprecated, and might be out of taste when all the facts were not known. Outside the House criticism continued, and this did much to encourage the terrorists.

After nine months in Palestine, he was appointed GOC-in-C, Eastern Command, and he served in this post until his retirement in 1950.

His name had been on the "death list" of the Stern gang when he was in Palestine, and his residence in Jerusalem was attacked by terrorists armed with hand grenades shortly before his departure. The terrorists had not forgotten him after he left, and over a year after his return to England, a parcel containing an explosive bomb filled with sodium cyanide, a deadly poison, was delivered to his house at Cobham. Luckily Lady Barker suspected that the parcel might be dangerous and did not open it, but summoned the police.

Barker was ADC to the King from 1949 to 1950. He was Colonel Commandant of the 2nd Battalion KRRC from 1946 to 1956, Honorary Colonel of the Loyal Suffolk Hussars from 1946 to 1950 and of the Bedfordshire Yeomanry from 1951 to 1960. He was a Deputy Liuetenant for Bedfordshire.

Earlier this year Mr Eliaha Lankin, a former Irgun commander, and a candidate for the post of Israeli ambassador to London withdrew, in the aftermath, and possibly as a result of, outspoken criticism of the appointment from General Barker, which received wide publicity.

He married in 1923 Violet Eleanor, youngest daughter of G. W. Thornton of Brockhall, Northamptonshire. There was one son of the marriage. His wife died last month.

PROFESSOR G D. DAWSON

Professor George Duncan Dawson, who died on November 13 aged 72, made important advances in the design of electroencephalographic machines. His method of extracting very small signals from a noisy background is in every-day use in laboratories of neuroscience throughout the world, and has been used in two important diagnostic techniques in neurology.

He graduated MBChB from Manchester University in 1936 and by 1938 had built at his own expense a single channel electroencephalographic machine, which provided a clinical service for Sir Geoffrey Jefferson's neurological clinic. He was invalided out of the RAFVR with tuberculosis in 1942 and went to the David Lewis Epileptic Colony where he continued to study the EEG in patients, and with Grey Walter laid the foundations of modern practice in the taking and interpreting of EEG records.

He became interested in a small group of patients with large muscle jerks who had EEG disturbances, and found that a detectable potential charge over the sensory cortex was produced by sensory volleys. These were best seen by superimposing several traces on the cathode ray tube and photograhping them.

Subsequently he used the same method and found much smaller potentials set up by sensory volleys in normal human subjects. These were only just detectable and Dawson made a machine to add up and average a number of successive records by means of rotating multipolar switches, as used in totalisators, and a bank of condensers. His first machine worked perfectly by 1951. Subsequently special electronic devices or computers can perform the same task. His mechanical apparatus is now in the Science Museum.

The averaging technique is now used to detect evoked potentials set up by touch, sound and light and has wide applications in research and diagnosis. Dawson also used it to detect small electrical changes in overlying skin produced by volleys of impulses in nerve trunks. This is now a standard procedure in the investigation of failure of nervous conduction.

His main advances were made when he was in Dr E. A. Carmichael's MRC Unit at the National Hospital, Queen Square. In 1962 he was given a personal Chair a thbe Institute of Psychiatry, and in 1966 he became second Professor of Physiology at University College, London.

He continued to solve technical problems in this field, to advise biologists and research councils on the application of computer methods to biology, and was widely known for his kindness and helpfulness to the struggling neophyte. In 1980 he was awarded the Geoffrey Parr Gold Medal of the EEG Society and is so far the only recipient.

He leaves a widow, Dr Mollie Heppenstall, herself an early EEG worker, and two sons.

Lady Ward, wife of Sir John Ward, GCMG, former Ambassador to Argentina and Italy, died on November 18. She was the former Daphne Mulholland.

Lady Warburg, who died on November 19 at the age of 80, was the widow of the late Sir Siegmund Warburg, who died last year.

M Jacques Westhof, Legal Adviser of Western European Union at its London headquarters, died on November 15 at the age of 59.

Science report

Sniffing glueballs

By Clive Cookson

Particle physicists are on the scent of "glueballs", exotic bundles of energy whose existence is predicted by some theories of nuclear forces.

No experiment has yet proved that glueballs exist, but recent results from particle accelerators in Europe and the United States have encouraged those physicists who are addicted to nuclear glue.

According to the generally accepted theory called quantum chromodynamics, all nuclear particles (such as protons and neutrons) are built from quarks. The strong nuclear force, which holds quarks together, is transmitted by "gluons". These are analogous to the more familiar photons (particles of light) associated with the electromagnetic force.

There is a crucial difference between photons and gluons. Photons are electrically neutral, so they neither attract nor repell each other. Gluons, in contrast, carry a type of charge, which whimsical physcicists call colour (it has nothing to do with colour in the conventional sense).

Therefore, according to the theory, gluons should not travel freely through space but should attract one another until the forces have been neutralized. Not only pure glueballs but also exotic hybrids containing quarks and gluons should form.

Although glueballs have not been identified unequivocally, some new particles observed at the West German electron-positron storage ring in Hamburg and at the Stanford Linear Accelerator Centre in California seem promising candidates. The mysterious iota and theta particles, about one-and-a-half times as heavy as a proton, originate as glueballs should but do not behave quite as predicted. They may be hybrids.

Another particle, twice as massive as a proton, "may be almost pure glue", according to Dr Frank Close, a particle physicist at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, reveiwing the evidence in *Nature* this week.

"It would be a shame if the existence of glueballs could only be appreciated by a privileged few who have devoted a lifetime to studying hadron spectroscopy", writes Dr Close, who is clearly an addict.

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Treasures of the Veneto

A SPECIAL REPORT

Titian, Tintoretto and Veronese are the star attractions of *The Genius of Venice 1500-1600*, an exhibition which opens today at the Royal Academy of Arts in London. This Special Report looks at the cultural richness of the Veneto – the region from which nearly all the artists in the exhibition come – ranging from the Roman arena and theatre at Verona in the west to contemporary painting and glass-making in Venice

by John Julius Norwich

Carlos Freire



The marriage of city and sea. The view down the Grand Canal towards Santa Maria della Salute, designed by Longhena and built in 1632 to commemorate cessation of the plague.

The *cinquecento*, the century covered by the exhibition that opens today, shows us the Venetian genius in the fullness of its flower. The Renaissance had come late to the lagoon. Even in the 1440s, when Bartolomeo Bon completed his gloriously flamboyant entrance to the Doges Palace, the Porta della Carta, Gothic was still the rule; there was not a single classically-inspired building in the city until Antonio Gambello's triumphal gateway to the Arsenal, erected in 1460. Before that time, Venetian art, whether in the form of painting, sculpture or architecture, must have seemed distinctly quaint to sophisticated young Florentines brought up on Masaccio and Ghiberti, Brunelleschi and Donatello.

There were several reasons for this, and the first lay in the character of the Venetians themselves. Always doers rather than thinkers, they mistrusted abstract theories; their response to beauty was more sensual than intellectual. Architecturally, moreover, they had refined the Gothic style to such a pitch of virtuosity that they were understandably reluctant to abandon it.

It is arguable, too, that they were strongly affected during the middle decades of the century by the new wave of Byzantine influences brought by refugees fleeing from the Turkish advance.

In its formative years, the Republic had always drawn its cultural inspiration from Byzantium rather than Rome, and the Venetians – led by the celebrated Cardinal Bessarion, the former Orthodox Archbishop of Nicaea who had accompanied the Byzantine Emperor to the Council of Florence and had then remained in Italy to become a Prince of the Roman Church – may well have felt more instinctive sympathy with the ideas of recent immigrants than with the humanist teachings of Florence.

But when the Renaissance came at last to Venice, the city's artists quickly made up for lost time. By the end of the century, thanks to the families of the Bellini and the Vivarini, to Carlo Crivelli and Andrea Mantegna, Venice had become a serious rival to Florence: Cima and Carpaccio, Giorgione and Titian were already at work, as were architects such as the Lombardi, Gambello, Giorgio Spavento and Mauro Coducci.

Even at this early stage, one cannot help noticing how many of there artists were not, strictly speaking, Venetians. Giambattista Cima came from Conegliano in the Alpine foothills, Titian from Pieve di Cadore in the high Dolomites; Mantegna was born near Padua, Giorgione in Castelfranco. Coducci and Palma Vecchio were from Gergamo. The Lombardi were indeed Lombards; equally self-evidently, among the younger generation, Jacopo Bassano was from Bassano del Grappa, Paolo Veronese from Verona. The most influential of all Renaissance architects, Andrea Palladio, was a Paduan who spent his working life in Vicenza. Native-born Venetians, among the artists of the first league, were the Bellini, Crivelli, Carpaccio, Tintoretto and Lorenzo Lotto; but very few others.

This, however, should occasion no surprise. As early as the fourteenth century, Venice had found that she could no longer remain aloof from developments on the mainland. By 1405, she had become mistress of a considerable area of north-eastern Italy, including the cities of Padua, Vicenza and Verona; half a century later her empire extended from the Po to the Alps and from the Adda – only a few miles from Milan – almost to Trieste.

It was for long fashionable to date her decline from the moment that she turned her attention away from Byzantium and the east, the source of her immense commercial prosperity, towards the *terraferma* and the ceaseless turbulence of Italian politics – thereby putting her trust no longer in the sea, the element where she had always been supreme, but rather in the land, to which she had always felt herself a stranger.

In fact, she had little choice: the persistent machinations of her enemies and the need to protect her European markets made her policy the only possible one. It proved, moreover, surprisingly successful: most of her mainland dominion remained Venetian territory until the coming of Napoleon.

It was in the east, and not in the west, that the storm-clouds were gathering. The fall of Constantinople to the 21-year-old Sultan Mehmet II was only a beginning; on land and sea, the Turks were continuing their westward advance. In 1470 they captured Negropont (Euboea), the Republic's chief colony in the eastern Mediterranean; Lemnos followed a year or two later, together with nearly all Venetian possessions on the Greek and Albanian mainland; more alarming still, bands of mounted Turkish irregulars had overrun the territory of Friuli immediately north-east of the lagoon, so close that the flames from the burning villages could be seen from the top of the Campanile of St Mark. In 1480 it was the turn of the Ionian Islands. Venice managed to retain Corfu, but at the end of the century she sustained yet another grievous loss – Modone and Corone, her twin colonies in the south-western Peloponnese.

Thus, as the *cinquecento* began, the Most Serene Republic found itself on the defensive; nor was its morale improved by the recent news that Vasco da Gama had returned safely to Lisbon, having completed the return journey to India by way of the Cape of Good Hope. No longer, it seemed, would Venice represent the principal European terminal for the silk and spice routes to the East. No longer would oriental merchants have to put their trust in slow, plodding camel caravans; in future they would take ship at Lisbon and disembark only at their final destination.

Overnight, Venice had become a backwater – or so at least it was thought at the time. Fortunately the Cape route was found to have problems of its own, and the berths along the Riva were to remain full for another century and more; but Venice's self-confidence had been dangerously shaken.

It is a commonplace of history that nations attain their cultural peak only after their political one is past. We may find it hard to believe that this stunning exhibition portrays a civilization in decline; but the truth is that, of its golden century, the Republic spent the first three decades fighting for its life against most – and occasionally all – of the princes of Europe, and the last seven helplessly watching the remorseless Turkish expansion, during which the ephemeral victory of Lepanto in 1571 was as nothing compared with the permanent loss of Cyprus the previous year.

By 1600 there can have been no doubt in anyone's mind that the great days were over; and although the *Serenissima* was to endure for another two centuries – experiencing, during the first, a brief revival of military glory in the Peloponnese and, during the second, one last flaring of her artistic genius with the great *vedutisti* and the Tiepolos, father and son – those days were never to return. Only the beauty remained.

Lord Norwich is author of A History of Venice *(Penguin)*.

Enchantment with every step

What is a museum city? The word museum still conjures up, alas, the picture of what most of them were like 50 years ago, but very few – at least in the western world – are like today: vast, echoing spaces, grey and lifeless, filled with carved stones, stuffed animals and dusty glass cases. In this sense, surely, no city is less of a museum than Venice. Melancholy she may be, particularly on those misty autumnal afternoons when the lagoon is as smooth as oil, the colours fade from the stone and the marble, and the all-pervading damp chills you to the marrow; but gloomy, never.

If, on the other hand, we are talking about a city in which almost every important building is a work of art, in which it is impossible to walk a hundred yards without some new enchantment to the eye, then Venice is the museum city *par excellence* – with the additional advantage, shared by none of her rivals, that there are no roads to be crossed, no cars or lorries to be avoided, no traffic signs to disfigure or obscure the view.

Venice qualifies for the title, moreover, in one other unique respect. Thanks entirely to those two and a half miles of shallow water which separate her from the mainland – and shallows, be it remembered, provide a far better protection than deeps for any would-be invader – Venice has survived through the centuries as the only Italian city never once to have suffered pillage or destructure at the hands of her enemies.

Even when the army of Napoleon finally sailed, unopposed, across the lagoon and brought the 1,000-year-old Republic ineluctably to its end, shipping off to Paris countless pictures, sculptures and works of art, the fabric of the city itself was left essentially untouched.

And because that same stretch of water has similarly delivered Venice from the tyranny of the motor car, untouched it remains. This truth is brought home strikingly enough whenever we look at a Guardi or a Canaletto; but we can go back more than twice as far as that – to the end of the fifteenth century, when Gentile Bellini and Vittore Carpaccio were active. The points of difference today are as nothing to the points of similarity. No other city constitutes so astonishing a historical document in its own right, or presents so unchanged a face to the world.

Venice, however, does not live in her past – a subject in which most modern Venetians appear sublimely uninterested. They are far more preoccupied with her future. Is she to survive, and if so how? Nobody wants to see this magical city, once the mightiest power in the Mediterranean, slowly sink into the mud of the lagoon as the waters rise around it and its inhabitants gradually desert it for the *terrafirma*, until at last it is populated only by the tourists and those who cater for them. Venice would then be a museum city indeed, and a waterlogged on at that.

Surely, if she is to continue, it must be as a living, economically viable community, able to hold her own with her mainland neighbours. Inevitably, this entails certain compromises: one cannot, for example, follow the advice of the purists and ban all motorboats from the city; a first-rate public transport system is essential when there is virtually no other kind, nor is it entirely practical to deliver, say, a deep freeze by gondola.

Venice's own system is second unto none, her *vaporetti* punctual to the minute; there are other essentials, however, where her record is less immaculate. Good low-cost housing for the working population is one; no city can maintain its morale indefinitely when a significant proportion of its inhabitants can expect to find their living-rooms knee-deep in water several times a year.

The other, still more important, since on it Venice's existence ultimately depends, is the construction of the long-awaited gates across the three entrances to the lagoon. Once these are in position and the city made finally safe from the ever more frequent *acqua alta*, the most beautiful city in the world will again be able to face the future not just with hope, but with confidence.

JJN

VENETO

As the Venetian Republic expanded westwards, its noblemen invested in the *terraferma* and became involved in agriculture. They and the land-owning gentry of the Veneto towns were to provide patrons for one of the most gifted and influential architects of all time

Villa Sarego: woodcut from Palladio's *I Quattro Libri dell'Architettura*, Venice, 1570

Palladio: a heritage of style

Born in Padua in 1508, Andrea Palladio was lucky to be young enough to be unaffected by the warfare which struck the Veneto in the early years of the *cinquecento*. In 1509, when he was six months old, the combined forces of the League of Cambrai defeated the Venetians at the Battle of Agnadello and overran most of the Veneto. Only a series of courageous military efforts enabled the Republic to regain its political viability.

Palladio's first works date from the 1530s, when the stability had been restored on the Venetian mainland. By the time of his death in 1580, he had designed two dozen villas. Most of these were catalogued in the second book of his famous treatise, the *Quattro Libri dell'Architettura*, published in Venice in 1570. Not all were built, and several remained unfinished; but the surviving villas stand as impressive monuments to his own genius and to his illustrious patrons.

Palladio was certainly an innovator. However, his designs were also firmly rooted in local architectural traditions. Fifteenth-century villas in the Veneto had ordinarily been fortified, symbolically at least, by towers and roof-top crenellations. In more rural sites, the whole villa, together with its gardens and outbuildings, were protected by a fortified enclosure. The principal legacy of villas such as these to Palladio was the characteristically Venetian convention of the symmetrical, three-part façade.

After the Cambrai Wars, three of Palladio's immediate predecessors began to show how classical architectural language could be more systematically and correctly applied to traditional villa types. The designs of Falconetto's Villa La Vescovi, Sansovino's Villa Garzoni, and Sanmicheli's Villa La Soranza, reveal the impact of these three architects' intensive studies in the ruins of ancient Rome.

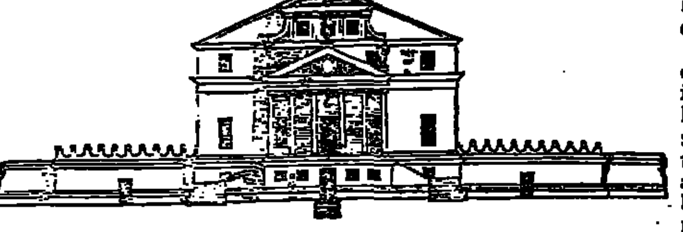
Civilisation had to be defended

The adoption of Roman forms in the Veneto was not only a question of architectural fashion; it also served to remind Venetians of their legendary ancestry as refugees from barbarian invasions at the fall of the Roman Empire. The fact that modern Rome had been horrifically sacked by imperial troops in 1527 pointed to an ever-present "barbarian" threat. Civilization had to be defended at all cost, and the revival of classical architecture became one of the most effective vehicles for its expression.

Like the three forerunners just mentioned, Palladio studied assiduously in the ruins of ancient Rome. Indeed, he made no fewer than five visits between 1541 and 1554. However, before the excavations of Pompeii and Herculaneum, few remains of classical domestic buildings were known. Literary sources such as Vitruvius and Pliny provided the only detailed evidence for the villas of the ancients. Palladio's great feat of imagination was to combine his knowledge of the ruins of ancient temples and civic buildings with written information relating to antique villas, and to adapt this synthesis to the practical needs of the Veneto landowner.

In the pages of the *Quattro Libri* Palladio displayed his villas as an imposingly unified corpus of works, a series of ingenious variations upon a single theme. Each plan is symmetrically arranged, both inside and out, with a loggia and central hall flanked by large, medium-sized and small rooms on each side. Villas with two main living storeys, generally those sited in or near villages or towns, have gracious staircases, one on each side, in prominent positions. In single-storey villas the stairs are tucked away in inconspicuous corners, since they give access only to the grain-lofts above and to the kitchens and cellars below.

Most of the villas were intended as working farms, with long wings on each side of the owner's residence, containing stables, wine-cellars, shelters for carts and ploughs, and accomodation for the farm manager. Dovecotes often marked the ends of the side wings, as in the Villa Emo and the Villa Barbaro, to add interest to the long, low profile, as well as to supply birds for the owner's table.



Villa Foscari, called "La Malcontenta": from *I Quattro Libri*

In reality, the villas of Palladio are much less homogeneous than the reader of his *Quattro Libri* would imagine. Each is stamped with an unmistakeable individuality, finely tuned to the special character of the site, and to the needs and personality of the owner. Even the first of his villas, the Villa Godi begun in about 1537, reveals a distinctive, elegant simplicity on its spectacular hillside site. One of the most adventurous early designs was that of the Villa Poiana, with its central *loggia* conceived as a *serliana* crowned by a semicircle of porthole windows.

By the 1550s, Palladio had evolved what has come to be regarded as his standard formula for a villa fasade, with a classical temple-front as its centrepiece. This theme is exemplified by the Villa Foscari, known as the "Malcontenta", where an Ionic, pedimented portico overlooking the Brenta Canal shelters an airy loggia opening into the stately central hall. Yet the rear of this villa, marked by the playful shallow rustication and the huge thermal window breaking into the pediment above, is once again quite individual.

Towards the end of his career, Palladio became increasingly involved with theories of harmonic proportion. In a series of late works he managed to invent designs in which almost every dimension could be incorporated into a series of musical ratios. One example is the design for the Villa Sarego at Santa Sofia, for a Veronese family active in *avant-garde* musical circles.

It is a measure of Palladio's capacity for innovation that it was not until his reputaion had long been established in the countryside and in his adopted home town of Vicenza that the conservative Venetian ruling class dared to employ him in their won city.

Deborah Howard

Dr Howard lectures in architectural history in the Department of Architecture at Edinburgh University and is the author of two books on Venetian architecture.



Detail from Nymphs Bathing by Palma il Vecchio (d.1528), *one of the paintings in the Royal Academy exhibition.* Palma spent most of his short career in Venice

Sinking under tourists

More is sinking into the lagoon than just the buildings of Venice. It seems that the entire 1,000-year-old art tradition of that fabled city is slowly being submerged under the weight of package tourism and a dwindling local population that can no longer sustain the great artistic production that once made it both the envy and joy of the western world.

Succeeding years have left it with a residue of bad contemporary architecture, albeit relegated to back canals, a degenerating international Biennale that either becomes a stage for political manifestations or increasingly poor displays of art, and a programme of local exhibitions that cannot be labelled as anything but provincial.

Even its great traditions in the decorative arts such as stained glass, blown glass and lace-making, have dwindled, with a few notable exceptions, to the level of airport art addressing itself to the purses of the undiscriminating tourists who swamp Murano and Burano and the area around the Piazza San Marco.

Some people believe Venetian art died the day Napoleon sailed up the Grand Canal and announced the end of the once proud Republic. Others think it was the forced infusion of the Venice Biennale in 1895, which flooded the city with increasingly meretricious avant-gardism that Venetian artists aped in their desperate attempt to keep afloat.

Whatever the reason, the city that once gave birth to some of the greatest glories of western art, and which considered the arts among its most important exports, now houses but five serious commercial galleries (only one of which has any international importance) and only one serious museum of contemporary art – even that the gift of an American, Peggy Guggenheim.

An insignificant handful of local artists tend to congregate quietly along the Dorso Duro. Older figures who once had some importance, such as Arturo Martini, a proto-surrealist who created a series of revolutionary manifestations in Venice around 1908-14, are hardly remembered.

There is Armando Pizzinato, born in 1910, a seminal abstractionist who is revered now only by Venetians. The most important internationally is Emilio Vedova (born 1919), whose bold, non-figurative expressionist canvases are still much sought after in the capitals of art, but he is an exception.

Are there others? One sits poring over *Bolaffi* (the official catalogue of Italian art) looking for the forgotten: Tancredi, who made a sensation in the 1950s and died in 1964; Music, still very much alive but not quite as much in demand as he once was; Santomaso, born in 1907, still working in Venice; and Alberto Biasi, who rose like a comet in the 1960s with his Op Art works. There is also Mario de Luigi, who lives in Dorso Duro creating works in a style called *grattage* which he invented 20 years ago.

Young artists drifting off to Milan

Of the younger artists there are remarkably few left who have not sensibly drifted off to Milan or Rome, where brisk business in international art trading offers a better chance of discovery by a more receptive buying public and possibilities of a market in the New World.

Coinciding with the Royal Academy's Venetian exhibition, the Polytechnic of Central London, with the sponsorship of the travel agency Serenissima, is presenting an exhibition of contemporary Venetian artists at its Regent Street gallery from November 30. The result offers a glance at a brave but touchingly provincial school.

There are Agostino Mocenigo's charming *faux-naive* views of Venice, Miro Romagna's more readily eye-catching neo-impressionistic splashy views of the Giudecca and the Zattere, and Calvadoro Bepi's canals rendered with a passionate semi-abstract brush. Dorino Cioffi, who has decorated buildings from Mestre to Rome and Naples with ceramic bas-reliefs, reveals himself as an accomplished, if pedantically *avant-garde*, sculptor.

In desperation, we turn to the great tradition of glass-making, for which Venice alone has been famous from the tenth century on and which still draws nearly half a million tourists a year. Leaving aside the highly entertaining daily circus displays at Murano where, before one's eyes, fire and molten sand are transformed into prancing ponies, giraffes and unicorns, there are "serious" attempts at art glass which mercifully continue.

From the twentieth-century tradition of Salviati's late Art nouveau masterpieces, through the virtuoso Venetian Art Deco glass, particularly by the Compagnia di Venezia e Murano–Pauly & Co, which fetch astronomical prices wherever they appear on the market, to the products of Venini, this native art form seems to have kept its integrity.

In the 1960s Peggy Guggenheim took a particular interest in reviving the artistic tradition of Murano glass as a pure art form, and commissioned Mirò, Picasso, Alexander Calder and others to do special works in this medium. Some of the experiments were ludicrous, but most were enchanting and the Murano glass works took a new lease on life.

During the past few years, Paolo Martinuzzi and Luciano Vistosi have created striking sculptural shapes in glass that exist independent of any arbitrary division between fine and applied arts. But it is Livio Seguso, "sculpting" in blown glass, who perhaps single-handedly is upholding his city's dying reputation. His magical shapes, unfolding transparently in lyrical configurations, indicate a truly new art forged out of an ancient tradition. Perhaps that is where the future of Venetian art lies, if it has any at all.

Mario Amaya

Shakespeare country at your feet

Though Venice is probably the most beautiful city in the world, its immediate surroundings are certainly the most hideous. The dusty road from Marco Polo airport is lined with supermarkets, petrol stations and advertisement hoardings and, as one approaches Mussolini's Ponte della Libertà, the horrendous spectacle of Mestre and Marghera assaults not only the eyes, but the nose as well. All attempts at controlling the poisonous exhalations from the petro-chemical installations there have been cynically sabotaged. If one decides to make the journey in reverse, in order to regain the *terraferma*, part of this satanic gauntlet must of course be run again.

An excellent justification for doing so is a visit to three conveniently near but stimulatingly contrasted places, Padua, Vicenza and Verona. They all, inevitably, exhibit evidence of strong Venetian influence, having been absorbed into the Republic at the very beginning of the fifteenth century, but they still retain their individuality.

Padua is basically a university town, famous for its faculty of law: in *The Merchant of Venice* Portia claims to represent the "the learned doctor Bellario" of Padua. The university is the second oldest in Italy, having been founded in 1222 by a group of teachers and students from Bologna University.

Under the Venetians, Padua was the only university permitted in their dominions, and it became famous for Aristotelian studies as well as law. The beautiful two-storey colonnaded courtyard was designed by Andrea Moroni in a chaste classical idiom, but the most interesting part of the building is the circular Anatomical Theatre, built of wood in 1544, and the oldest in Europe.

Just around the corner from the university, in Piazza Cavour, is one of the most attractive neoclassical buildings in Italy, the Caffè Pedrocchi, designed by Giuseppe Japelli and built in 1831 in a bold Greek Doric style and still retaining some of its original interior decoration and furniture.

There are several important churches to be visited, notably the Basilica di Sant' Antonio, dedicated to St Anthony and known locally as the *Santo*, on the square in front of which stands Donatello's powerful equestrian statue of the Condottiere Gattamelata (1453).

Padua's other basilica, dedicated to Santa Giustina, overlooks the Prato della Valle, originally the centre of the Roman city and later used for markets and fairs. Its informality, familiar from an etching by Canaletto, was offensive to the neoclassical ethos and from 1775 it was "improved" and embellished with statues of local worthies.

Any visit, however brief, must include the Cappella degli Scrovegni, built in the ruins of the Roman arena in 1305 and completely frescoed by Giotto. One of the undisputed masterpieces of western art, it signalled its direction for more than 600 years, as revolutionary in its way as Picasso's *Les Demoiselles d'Avignon* of 1907.

Padua is a young, bustling, democratic place, whereas Vicenza, some 20 miles to the east and slightly north, is, in spite of its small size, essentially aristocratic. Its fabric is grand, even forbidding, and much of it is the work of one man, the Vicentine architect Andrea Palladio (1508-80).

Walking around Vicenza is rather like being on a stage set and so one is hardly surprised to find the Teatro Olimpico, with its illusionistic proscenium based on ancient Roman models. Across Piazza Matteotti, the Palazzo Chiericati, which houses the Museo Civico, looks strangely familiar: the south façade of the Queen's House, Greenwich, is built to the same design, but with the balance between solid and void reversed.

The heart of the city is the Piazza dei Signori, dominated by the huge Basilica, which Palladio clothed in a magnificent two-storey arcade whose basic unit is equally familiar as the "Venetian window" so popular with English architects during the Georgian period.

If Padua is democratic and Vicenza aristocratic, Verona is positively imperial, with its vast Roman arena, its array of forked Ghibelline battlements and, above all, its commanding situation on the river Adige – Ruskin said that it was "more nobly placed than Edinburgh".

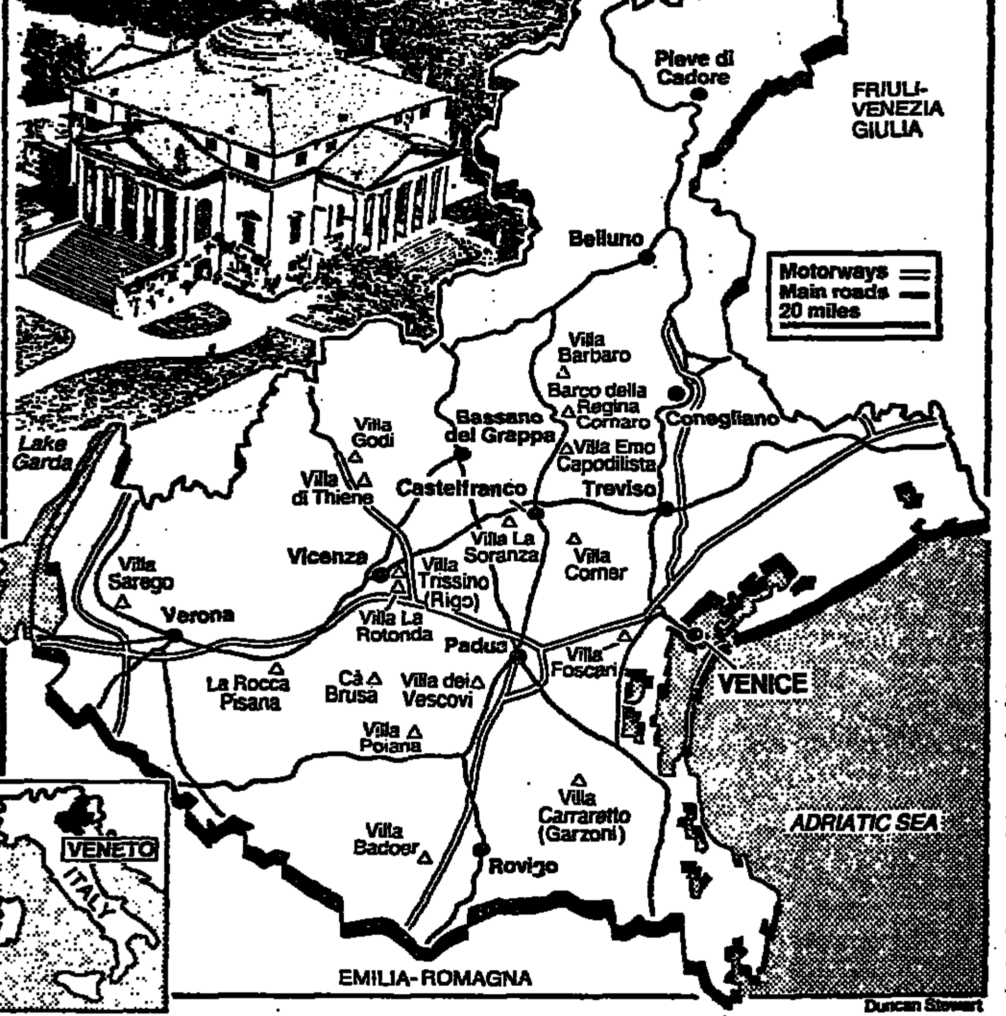
The social spine of the city is the pedestrianized Via Mazzini, which links Piazza Erbe, the Old Roman Forum and now a market place packed with umbrella-shaded stalls, with Piazza Brà, lined with elegant cafés and restaurants and containing the majestic Arena.

Verona is enormously rich in works of art, an important collection of which is housed in the Museo del Castelvecchio, which was completely redesigned in the early 1960s by Carlo Scarpa in a bare but dramatic style that has happily not dated.

Paolo Caliari, usually called Veronese from his birthplace, is the city's most famous painter and although he spent most of his life in Venice, he did occasionally return to Verona, where he painted at least two major altarpieces, still *in situ*. That, in the Church of San Giorgio in Braida (1556), depicting the *Martyrdom of St George*, is appropriately enough one of his grandest as well as his most dramatic works.

Jeffery Daniels

Director, Geffrye Museum, London



From Lake Garda to the Adriatic in search of Oenological delights

by Bruno Roncarati

Situated in the north east of Italy, the region of Veneto extends from the shore of Lake Garda in the west to that of the Adriatic sea to the east, and from the banks of the river Po in the south to the border with Austria in the north.

Venice is the capital of the region that is divided into seven provinces, the other provincial towns being Belluno, Padova, Rovigo, Treviso, Verona and Vicenza.

Few regions are blessed with so much varied natural beauty: the flatness of the the agricultural countryside in the south contrasts with the breathtaking peaks of the Dolomites, some exceeding 10,000 feet; the remarkable Lake Garda, the largest in Italy, with the small but picturesque mountain lakes of Misurina and Alleghe; the gentle artistic beauty of the remote Palladian Villas lost in the countryside, with the majesty of the Doges' palace in Venice.

In addition to all this, Veneto is one of the largest wine producing regions of Italy, with an average of some 10 million hectolitres during the last five years; that represents over 13% of the total national production. Of this, about 16% is of DOC status (DOC stands for Denominazione di Origine Controllata; the result of a set of regulations passed in 1963 to control the production of wines in Italy).

Producion is concentrated in the south, east of Lake Garda and north of Venice, above and beside Treviso, in the area of Conegliano and Valdobbiadene and the basin of the river Piave.

Hemingway's favourite wine

Although I cannot recall precisely how old I was at the time. I certainly remember vividly my first trips to Lake Garda, when I was a small child and my parents took me now and then to this enchanting spot some fifty miles from where we lived.

I remember the shining water of the lake, the surrounding gentle hills crowned with cypress trees dotting the skyline, the distant mountains covered with snow, the quaint harbours, the old ruins. These early recollections all come to mind many years later whenever I think of Lake Garda, in spite of the very many frequent visits since then.

In fact, not much has changed, at least superficially, although to experience that sense of peace and tranquillity that has been eradicated in my mind for so many years one has to leave the busy roads that surround the lake, the villages bursting at the seams with tourists, the crowded picturesque bays and take to the hills.

To the east of the lake are enchanting little villages, emerging from a sea of vineyards. Come Autumn and they all set up their 'festa dell'uva', the wine festival that brings out the charm of the old tradition.

This is Valpolicella country, where the famous red wine by the same name, immortalised by Hemingway in 'Across the river and into the trees', and undoubtedly one of his favourites, come from.

For an oenological tour of the region, this is certainly a good starting point.

Here we are in the province of Verona, one of the most fascinating cities in Italy, not only on account of its rich features of Roman, Medieval and Renaissance art and the great beauty of its churches, but also because of the extraordinary charm of its surrounding countryside. The majestic Roman arena is well known the world over to opera lovers for the famous open air Summer season and among the churches the most outstanding is that of San Zeno, started in the 5th century and completed in the 12th century.

The Piazza dei Signori is a superb Medieval and Renaissance square, adjacent to the stretch of road dominated by the Arche Scaligero, where members of the House of La Scala were buried. Near here is the well known '12 apostoli' restaurant of Giorgio Gioco, whose gastronomic delights have been acknowledged beyond any doubt by 2 stars in the Michelin Guide.

Verona has the most comprehensive wine show in Italy, called most appropriately Vinitaly. This takes place in the Spring and attracts numerous visitors both from the whole of Italy as well as from abroad. The city offers numerous excellent restaurants and the local cuisine is enhanced by the wines produced on the surrounding hills.

Besides 'Valpolicella', you can find 'Bardolino' another red of similar style though lighter in colour. Some wine companies make a 'novello' which is ready early in November and is renowned for its fruitiness. Emilio Pedron, of Lanberti, makes an excellent 'novello'.

'Soave', a slightly bitter white named from a locality east of here is also enough known not to need any introduction.

For the more demanding there is 'Amarone', a superb full bodied red of some 14/15 degrees made with the same grape varieties as 'Valpolicella', but with partially dried grapes, to obtain a fuller, round wine of excellent quality.

Among the whites, 'Bianco di Custoza', a pleasant straw yellow, slightly aromatic wine, is made near here and is now more readily available in the local 'trattorie' as well as the more sophisticated restaurants of Verona, as an alternative to 'Soave'

Both wines are also available in a "sparkling" version. So are 'Recioto della Valpolicella' and 'Recioto di Soave', respectively red and white, each made with the same grape varieties as the table wines by the same name.

In this case, the grapes are selected and left to dry on special wooden frames, the same as for 'Amarone', but vinified in a different fashion to obtain sweet sparkling wines.

But the pearl of Veneto's sparklings must be 'Prosecco'. This wine is made around Conegliano, due north of Treviso, in an area known as Marca Trevigiana, in the province of Traveso.

Not for motorway addicts

From Lake Garda, via Verona and the town of Soave, easily identifiable because of its ancient castle perched on a hill, there are various alternative roads to go north-east towards Conegliano. One of the more picturesque is through Vecenza, Thiene and Bassano del Grappa. It is not by any means the most direct and yet it offers the traveller with time in hand an aspect of rural Italy motorway addicts have long forgotten and the opportunity to branch off in search of quaint little villages and off the road wine cellars. Vicenza is the home of Andrea Palladio, who gave his name to the style of architecture known as Palladian, much followed in England in the late 17th century and early 18th century.

For many years Vicenza was under Venetian rule and the ever present Lion of St. Mark is an obvious reminder at the top of its column on the beautiful Palazzo da Schio, also known as the Golden House and at Casa Longhi, the finest gothic palazzo in town. The Loggia del Capitanio in the piazza dei Signori, the Rotonda, Palladio's finest villa, the magnificent cathedral and the classical Teatro Olimpia are hard to miss.

Most of the stone used by Palladio came from the quarries of the Berici hills, the Colli Berici, as they are known, a range of hills that extends southwards, rich with beautiful patrician villas.

This is where the 'Colli Berici' wines are made, named after the grape variety they are produced from. There are four whites 'Garganega', 'Tocai Bianco', Sauvignon' and 'Pinot Bianco', a pleasant, full, pale golden wine with a pronounced bouquet, and three reds, 'Merlot', 'Tocai Rosso' and 'Cabernet'.

The wines of this area have been well known since the 14th century and some are quite outstanding, particularly the 'Pinot' and the 'Cabernet'.

To the east are the 'Colli Euganei', a range of volcanic hills where the Etruscans first planted their vineyards many centuries ago. The DOC that applies here is known by the same name 'Colli Euganei' and covers three wines, a 'Rosso', a 'Bianco' and a 'Moscato'. The 'Bianco' is particularly delicate and fruity. It is made from a mixture of various grape varieties the most prominent being Tocai and Sauvignon.

Through Thiene, north of Vicenza, the road turns east and passes by Breganze, a splendid little medieval town that gives its name to a DOC that covers six wines: 'Bianco', 'Rosso', 'Cabernet', 'Pinot Nero', 'Pinot Bianco' and 'Vespaiolo', the last four being named after the predominant grape varieties they are made from.

My favourite is 'Breganze Cabernet', with a pronounced aroma of grass and a deep ruby colour – an excellent wine to accompany the local gastronomic specialities.

On this score, where better than 'Al Sole Da Tiziano', a family run restaurant with authentic local cuisine and one star in the Michelin Guide, located in Bassano del Grappa a few miles up the road. This town, famous for its wooden bridge on the river Brenta is probably better known for its association with 'Grappa', the spirit distilled from the residue of grape pressing.

Near Asolo, on the way to Valdobbiadene is the splendid Palladian Villa Volpi with its magnificent gardens, built in the 16th century. Further on is 'Prosecco' country: the excellent sparkling wine produced in the area between Valdobbiadene and Conegliano. It is made from 'prosecco' grapes with an addition of 'pinot bianco' of 'grigio'. This is delightful wine, fruity and with a lasting froth.

And so to Venice!

In the basin of the Piave river from Conegliano, also famous for its oenological school, down to the Adriatic sea, part in the province of Treviso and part in that of Venice, 'Piave' wines are made. This Denomination of Origin applies to two whites, 'Tocai' and 'Verduzzo' and to two reds, 'Merlot' and 'Cabernet'. 'Merlot del Piave' is a ruby red wine inclined to garnet, with a dry, slightly tannic taste and a delicate bouquet; 'Cabernet del Piave' a full bodied red with a balanced grassy taste and a deep but pleasant scent.

The latter can be a wine of class with considerable longevity, particularly the 'riserva', an additional specification for wines older than 3 years and not less than 12.5 degrees of alcohol.

Near here, in an area between the Livenza and Tagliamento rivers, just north of Venice, 'Merlot di Pramaggiore' is made. This is a red wine obtained entirely from 'merlot' grapes, an excellent accompaniment for roasts and game.

But where better to end our ideal tour of Veneto than in nearby Venice, the capital of the region, the 'Serenissima', so impregnated with history and charm, with its fantastic architecture and romantic appeal.

What better to "summarise" out oenological tour than by having dinner in a good restaurant in town. Why not the 'Antico Martini' and pick the best regional wines from Emilio Baldi's comprehensive wine list.

Here in the elegant and refined surrundings of an eighteenth century coffee house, the most representative wines of Veneto are on offer and can be drunk at their best.

Outside, the hustle and bustle of the Doges' city can be an optional extra, but let it not influence your judgment of the wines. At home, in Britain, they will taste equally good and will bring some sunshine to your table.

Unione Consorzi Vini Veneti D.O.C.

The Union of Venetian Wine Consortia comprises member-bodies established by regulations laid down by the Italian Government and European Commission. These Consortia are responsible for controlling and enforcing the D.O.C. standards.

This union, including its various member associations, has as one of its functions, the role of promoting D.O.C. Venetian wines. The Union of Venetian Wine Consortia would be pleased to receive any enquiries or requests for further information concerning D.O.C. Venetian wines from either of the addresses below;



U.K. – **Italian Trade Centre**
37 Sackville St.,
London, W1X 2DQ
Tel: 01-734 2412

Italy – **Unione Consorzi Vini Veneti**
Corso Porto Nuova 96,
37100 Verona.
Tel: (045) 591077
Tlx: 480096 CAMVR 1

MARKET REPORT ● by Michael Clark

£25m boost for System X

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Nov 14. Dealings end, Today. Contango Day, Nov 28. Settlement Day, Dec 5.

The electrical sector received a much needed boost yesterday when the local authority-owned Hull telephone service announced it was opting for the British designed System X to re-equip its 14 exchanges.

This was good news for the British consortium of Plessey and GCE which fought off bids from France, Canada, Belgium, Sweden, Holland and the US. Plessey refused to say how much the deal was worth, but last night City analysts estimated it could be as much as £25m.

Although the deal is small in comparison to the entire Systems X development brokers say the award of the contract will provide a shot in the arm for the manufacturers. Shares of Plessey responded to the news with a rise of 8p to 212p, while GEC rose 6p to 196p. **Standard Telephone & Cables**, which dropped out of the consortium last year, added 1p to 275p.

The rest of the equity spent a quiet day with investors still uncertain over the country's economic prospects. All the experts are still unable to agree and the latest balance of payment figures offered little in the way of inspiration.

The absence of support from US investors, who were busy celebrating Thanksgiving, meant it was left up to new time support for the next account to supply the interest.

It's been a gloomy time of late for Horizon Travel as it continues to lose ground in the holiday price war. But yesterday, as the shares remain frozen at 125p – just a shade above the year's low – a single buyer appeared on the scene to mop up a large line of around 300,000 shares that had been overhanging the market and depressing the price.

The FT Index closed 2.4 higher at 726.8.

Gilts showed falls of up to 50p after the Government broker announced that the latest issue £500m of Exchequer 2½ per cent 1986 had been undersubscribed with all applications allotted in full. The unsold portion of the stock will be operated as a "tap". The Government had been hoping to attract high tax payers to the low coupon on the stock.

Dealers said the issue was a flop because it was priced above comparable issues and failed to attract the big institutions. Among the leaders new time support was good, **Bowater** 5p up at 229p, after 232p and **Lucas Industries** 3p at 144p.

One of the biggest movers after hours was **Francis Parker**, the builder, which rose 10p to a new high of 50p after receiving a bid approach. A statement from the company said that after recent market speculation a major shareholder of the company had received an approach which could lead to an offer being made for FP. The group's biggest shareholders include ICFC with 19.5 per cent and **Electra Investment Trust** 7.3 per cent. At this level Francis Parker is worth £13m.

S. G Warburg is placing the National Coal Board's 30 per cent stake in **Associated Heat Services**. The 2.4 million shares are being placed with institutions at 312p – 24p below last night's closing price of 336p, up 3p. Compagnie Generale de Chauffe, which co-founded AHS, is holding on to its 30 per cent and is now the largest shareholder.

Hogg Robinson yesterday spelt out the benefits of its £1.8m acquisition of lossmaking travel group Wakefield Fortune. Mr Chris Price, a director of Hogg, said the move would add 50 per cent to group turnover overnight and could lead to a substantial boost to profits in 1985. It also provides a more balanced relationship between Hogg's insurance and travel business and allows it to attack rival Thomas Cook's dominant leadership position. The shares sliped 3p to 128p.

Speculative support was good for 16p on **Amos Hinton** at 226p, which **United Scientific** climbed 17p to 353p ahead of figures next month.

TR Industrial & General Trust, part of the Touche Remnant investment trust empire, has placed its largest single stake in TR Property Investment Trust. Financial institutions have taken up £13.8m of shares in the trust which is worth £58m.

A statement from Touche Remnant said this move was part of the parent group's policy of gradually eliminating cross-holdings between its 10 investment trusts. The shares were placed by broker de Zoete & Bevan 7p below Wednesday's price of 113p.

Fruit and vegetable importer **Albert Fisher** was a firm market climbing 5p to 60p following yesterday's article in *The Times*. Broker Laurence Prust has joined the growing band of admirers of the company and has just issued a buy circular. LP is looking for pretax profits of about £1m for the present year. Last year when Mr Tony Millar took over as chairman the group was making losses of £29,000.

BELL'S
SCOTCH WHISKY
BELL'S

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THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Tebbit takes competitive view of Telecom

Mr Norman Tebbit was in characteristically trenchant mood yesterday, unleashing his celebrated acerbic tongue on the Post Office engineers for the short-sightedness of their campaign against the privitization of British Telecom.

Although in many observer's eyes, the union campaign is now beginning to run out of both steam and money, it has undoubtedly had some success in turning public opinion against privitization.

Mr Tebbit was clearly primarily concerned to redress some of the balance in the propaganda battle, and doubtless many of his barbs will have their effect.

More interesting, from the City and industry's point of view, were his more general, philosophical thoughts on privitization. With the Treasury and the big spending departments now engaged on drawing up their privitization programme for the next five years – a programme that could raise £10,000m – will be a key figure in determining not only what goes into the private sector, but the equally important question of how this should be done.

The Trade and Industry Secretary enunciated two principles: first, that competition should be encouraged wherever possible (a principle "so self-evident that I am tempted to claim that it is iniversally accepted"), and the second that "businesses do best when they are in the private sector". (a view which Mr Tebbit is astonished is not universally accepted).

No profundities there – but the priority between the advancement of competition and the transfer of ownership from public to private sector is precisely what the present internal Government debate over privatization is all about (witness the British Airways/British Caledonian conundrum).

Mr Tebbit hinted strongly that he is lining up behind the view that promoting competition must be the Government's paramount concern.

British Telecom, he declared, is "no shrinking violet that has to be protected from competition". Indeed it is not: it is however the apparent lack of genuine competition in the Government's plans for the telecommunications industry that has caused so many of its natural supporters to express their misgivings about the British Telecom flotation.

Mr Tebbit must be aware of this, although he claimed yesterday that BT's real competition is with IBM and ITT in the expanding international market. It will be interesting to see if his speech is followed up by a further tightening of the competitive and regulatory framework facing BT after privatization.

Mr Longcroft back in business

On the face of it, Mr James Longcroft's Tricentrol group is marking time with 9 month net profits virtually unchanged at £16.1m pointing to a full year profits of £20m plus. But behind that lies a big cut in the tax bill on Tricentrol's British oil interests – mainly the depleting Thistle field plus a new field in Surrey.

This state of affairs is mainly a result of tax concessions made in the last budget which now make North Sea exploration and companies with tax to offset against it more attractive.

Tricentrol is already involved in exploration in New Zealand (where it is taking a cautious line on drilling results that sent local shares in the Moki offshore field soaring).

Exploration in China is due to start, acreage has been built up in the Gulf of Mexico, the old Canadian interests are still delivering. But the vital eighth round North Sea Licences have still to be appraised.

The company used not to be too clever about protecting its tax position. Mr Longcroft, after being criticized for worrying more about his own tax as an exile, is now back in charge and relying more on the team that he originally built up. If he does not exploit Tricentrol's post-budget possibilities fully, others would no doubt be happy to take over and do it for him.

Trade figures fire a warning shot

The October trade figures are hardly a cause for panic, but certainly provide more ammunition for those who feel it is time to reappraise the state of the economic cycle in Britain. The reversal to a monthly current deficit of £269m, the worst since May, was caused by a blip of imports right across the range of commodities.

A year ago monthly imports and exports of goods other than oil were balanced at £3.9 billion apiece. By last month, imports had climbed to £5 billion while exports were stuck at a little above £4 billion. Some divergence was to be expected because Britain's recovery started before those in Europe, North America and elsewhere. But that story is beginning to wear a little thin.

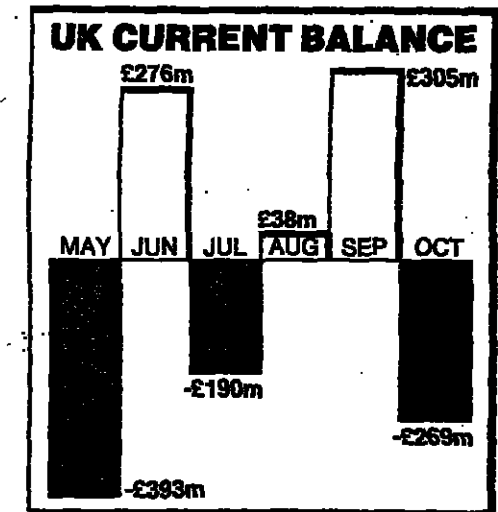
The export boom to the United States is starting to tail off and the EEC balance is not going well.

This all adds to the argument that the consumer boom, even if it does continue, will prove unhealthy because it will lead to overheating of crucial sectors of the economy.

If the Chancellor is to achieve his forecast 3 per cent growth rate next year, he must rely heavily on a switch to investment and/or a crucial contribution from recovering overseas demand for British exports. And any old exports will not do.

In many industries the excess capacity, the drive to push for chancy export markets, simply is not there.

Otherwise, there are bound to be inflationary pressures, whether exerted through trade and the exchange rate or elsewhere. This message had not yet percolated through to policymakers.



Rethink at Burnett after profits halved to £4.9m

By Andrew Cornelius

Burnett & Hallamshire Holdings, the mining and property group which promised further substantial growth in profits this year, yesterday announced halved interim pretax profits of £4.9m.

The slump in profits was below the worst City expectations after a series of meetings between City analysts and Eric Grayson, who succeeded Mr George Helsby as chairman of the group in October. The shares fell by 5p to 168p. At their peak earlier this year when Mr Helsby predicted strong growth, Burnett shares were trading at £8.50 each.

Mr Grayson said the results are naturally a disappointment but the group was in a financially strong position and well able to develop and grow from a sound base. Against this background he said the board had decided to declare an unchanged interim dividend of 4p per share.

Mr Grayson said he was conducting a review of the group's operations and at least two new non-executive directors would be appointed to strengthen the board.

He said that, after a period when the company had expanded dramatically – principally by acquisition – it was now the right time to examine the future corporate strategy in order to maximize profits from existing resources.

Kleinwort Benson, recently appointed as financial advisers to the group, and James Capel & Co, appointed as brokers, were helping with this review.

The biggest shortfall in profits in the six months to September 30 came from the property division where pretax profits fell from £4.5m to £1.2m. Mr Grayson said that earlier this year the company expected to be able to announce further contribution to growth from the property division.

Instead there was a nil contribution from the property development activities in California, which last year produced a pretax profit o £9.4m, after the sale of the group's interest in the Dart Square development. He said the phasing of the current development programme means profits should build up gradually over the next two to three years.


George Helsby: had predicted growth

However, there would be no short term gains from property sales. In contrast he said that construction activities had performed well and recently the group had won a £10m contract in Abu Dhabi and a £3m contract in Northern Ireland.

At the same time pretax profits from the mining division fell from £5.4m to £4.8m at the halfway stage after depressed market conditions. The oil division increased its pretax profits from £208,000 to £231,000.

Group turnover during the six months fell from £107m to £100m.

The dramatic slide in the Burnett share price began after Mr Grayson briefed City stockbroking firms shortly after his appointment as chairman, following the surprise resignation through ill health of Mr George Helsby, his predecessor.

Before the meetings, analysts were expecting another record year of profits from Burnett to follow the previous 15 successive years of increased profits.

Profits forecasts for the year were downgraded from £38m to between £15m and £18m. Subsequently the company's bankers and brokers were replaced.

Burnett has been further burdened by problems at Rand Corporation in South Africa, which contributed to associate company losses of £1.5m at the interim stage, against losses of £418,000 last year. Rand has been hit by falling demand for its coal products and Burnett is waiting to complete a restructuring of the Rand operations

Boots cheer for City

Boots, the chemists and pharmaceuticals group, yesterday reported a 24.5 per cent increase in pretax profits to £65.1m for the hal -year to the end of September.

This was better than the City had expected and would have been better still by some £6m but for a provision against the claw-back of chemists' remunerated by the Department of Health and Social Security.

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 726.8 up 2.4
FT Gilts: 81.10 down 0.09
FT All Share: 452.63 up 0.07
Bargains: 19,603
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 94.17 down 0.38
New York: Closed for holiday
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9,373.54 down 43.02
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 823.75 down 10.22
Amsterdam: 153.4 up 1.3
Sydney: AO Index 733.6 down 10.22
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1019.5 up 7.0
Brussels: General Index 125.44 down 0.51
Paris: CAC Index 148.3 down 1.2

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling
$1.4650 down 40pts
Index 83.4 unchanged
DM 3.97 up 0.01
FrF 12.0575 up 0.0150
Yen 344.50 unchanged
Dollar
Index 128.8 up 0.4
DM 2.7.75 up 35 pts
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1.4660
Dollar DM 2.7042

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 10
Discount market loans week fixed 9-8⅞
3 month interbank 9$^{5}/_{16}$-9¼
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9¾-9⅞
3 month DM 6$^{3}/_{16}$-6$^{1}/_{16}$
3 month Fr F13$^{3}/_{16}$-13$^{1}/_{16}$
US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9¾
Treasury long bond 102$^{27}/_{32}$-102$^{15}/_{16}$
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period October 5 to November 1, 1983 inclusive: 9.393 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am $375.75 pm $375.50
close $375.25-376 (£256-256.50)
New York (close): $375.50
Krugerrand* (per coin): $387-388.50 (£264-265)
Sovereigns* (new): $88-89 (£60-60.75)
*Excludes VAT

UK groups face £35m losses in IBH crisis

By Andrew Cornelius

Powell Duffryn
Half-year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £6.8m (£5.1m)
Stated earnings 13.7p (10.8p)
Turnover £273m (£265m)
Net interim dividend 5p (4.7p)
Share price 250p up 5p
Dividend payable 6.1.84

British companies stand to lose at least £35m from the tottering IBH, the West German construction equipment group, which is struggling for survival.

Yesterday Powell Duffryn, the British industrial holdings company, which holds a 13.2 per cent stake in IBH, said that is was preparing to write off its £14m investment at the end of the financial year to March 31.

This came after the announcement by Herr Horst-Dieter Esch, the founder and chief executive of IBH, that he would be resigning after the collapse of talks aimed at saving large parts of the IBH group.

Babcock International, which holds a further 10 per cent of the IBH equity, has previously made it known that it has £21m at risk at IBH.

Herr Esch said he believed that a bankrupcy petition for IBH could still be avoided, but Herr Wolfgang Petereit, the receiver for IBH, said he could not rule out the possibility of bankrupcy.

Herr Petereit is currently considering proposals from three groups of investors which could save the group which is the third largest construction equipment company in the world

Anouncing interim results for the six months to September 30, Powell Duffryn said that it would be quite sometime before the IBH situation is clarified. However, the company said that it was likely that a provision against the investment might become necessary in the annual accounts at March 30 1984.

In addition Powell Duffryn's Hamworthy Hydraulics subsidiary, where it has a 50 per cent stake, stands to lose about £2m of business a year if IBH does collapse.

But Powell Duffryn stressed that the collapse of IBH would not materially affect group liquidity or borrowing.

Interim pretax profits reached £6.8m, against £5.1m at the same stage last year. Turnover increased from £265m to £273m.

Trading profits from the shipping operation were down from £1.9m to £1.7m, enginering profits down from £975,000 to £943,000, fuel distribution rose from £1.4m to £1.8m and construction services increased from £2.3m to £3.1m.

SE invites views on rule changes

By Wayne Lintott and Jeremy Warner

Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the Stock Exchange Council, wrote to the 250-odd member companies yesterday, detailing the establishment of two new coordinating committees. These committees will be responsible for the future planning of restructuring stock market trading.

One committee, led by Mr Charles Eglington, deputy chairman of the council and a partner at jobbers Akroyd & Smithers, will cover the area of constitution membership, rights, obligations and all future implications, particularly for the compensation fund.

The other committee, led by Mr Patrick Mitford-Slade, another deputy chairman who is a partner at brokers Cazenove, will oversee the implications for dealing and supporting technology.

Although no time limit has been set on the decisions of the committees, Sir Nicholas calls on the 4,300 members and market users to make known their views as soon as they can.

Sir Nicholas reaffirmed his intention to only alter the rules if there was a widespread call to do so. Once again he criticised the public comment on the potential future changes as being "premature and naive", adding: "there has certainly been a serious lack of constructive comment".

The committee will be reviewing the need for changes to the dealing rules, the widely discussed single capacity activities of jobbers and brokers, and the abolition date for fixed commissions.

He said: "It is, however, clear that . . . the constitutional and regulatory framework of the Stock Exchange must be kept up to date and the market procedures and supporting technical systems must be sensibly and quicky adapted to the developing needs of members and their clients.

"In both cases we have to keep a very close eye on changing commercial circumstances and do all that we can to anticipate needs rather than react to them."

The effect of an anticipated liberalization of competition has been the attempt by leading financial institutions to buy into brokers, jobbers and merchant banks. The latest to declare publicly such an interest is Globe Investment Trust.

Mr David Hardy the chairman, yesterday declared himself in the market for both brokers and banks. I "Like everybody else, we are having talks – but our plans and ambitions in the financial markets are still being researched and developed," he said.

Globe admitted to being one of a large number of companies exploring the possibility of buying the merchant bank Singer & Friedlander

Unlike its associate, Electra Investment Trust – which has also declared an interest in the bank – Globe's size would allow it to acquire Singers without surrendering the coveted investment trust tax status

Trust trims Aspinall group stake

By Philip Robinson

Save and Prosper, Britain's largest unit trust group, has sold part of its stake in Anglo Scottish Investment Trust, where Aspinall Holdings, the casino group, has just built up a 10.1 per cent shareholding.

Mr John Manser, Save and Prosper investment director, said: "We have reduced our stake over the past month as the price in the market has come up near to asset value. A month ago we had exactly 10 per cent. Now we have under that, but I'm not prepared to discuss individual share sales."

Buying by Aspinall, of which Mr John Aspinall and Sir James Goldsmith own 40 per cent each, sent the Anglo share price in the past fortnight from 114p to near its 149p net asset value.

Mr Richard Langdon, Aspinall chairman, said yesterday: "It's not right for me to discuss where the shares came from, certainly not without asking their (owners') permission."

Save and Prosper had been a leading critic of the way in which Anglo Scottish directors awarded a contract to manage its investments to CS Investments, a company partly controled by Mr Eric Crawford, an Anglo director.

As a result, confirmation of the CS appointment will be sought from shareholders at the annual meeting on December 22.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Big fall in orders for engineers

Britain's engineering companies had one of their worst months for new orders from abroad in August, the Department of Trade and Industry reported yesterday. But the feeling within the industry is that August was an abberation.

New orders from overseas, on an index set against the monthly average for 1980, slumped to 69. Mechanical engineering suffered most of all, falling to 61, while instrument and electrical engineering was down to 80.

The quarterly trend – comparing the three months ending in August with the previous three – shows an overall drop in foreign orders of 21.5 per cent. That, however, was distorted by an exceptionally good April, when Northern Engineering Industries is believed to have received substantial contracts for Indian power station equipment. Home orders during the same periods showed an overall 9 per cent rise.

● Mr Eric Parker, managing director of Trafalgar House, has taken over the mantel vacated by Lord Matthews when Fleet Holdings was hived off, and assumed the role of chief executive under the chairmanship of Mr Nigel Broackes.

● Group attributable profits at Anglo American, the South African mining and industrial finance company, rose by 12.6 per cent to R241m (£136m) in the six months to the end of September. The dividend was maintained at 35 cents and earnings per share, including those from associates, were 145.5 cents against 136.3 cents. But the shares were unchanged in London at £10.$^{15}/_{16}$.

Investors' Notebook, page 22

Extel interim profits jump to more than £5m

By Our Financial Staff

Greater activity in its financial and commercial printing markets helped the Extel communications, publishing and information services group to more than treble its interim pretax profits. They reached £5.15m in the half-year to the end of last September – against £1.5m in the similar half in 1982. This latest figure is almost as much as Extel made in the whole of 1982-83. Extel's shares jumped 46p to 416p yesterday.

The profits were achieved on a turnover up 20 per cent to £69.6m. The interim dividend is raised from 2.5p to 3p.

During the first half, Extel won control of Benn Brothers, the publishers, in a £16m takeover battle with United Newspapers.

Mr Alan Brooker, chairman and chief executive, said: "The dramatic improvement in our profits compared with last year is mainly due half-year of high activity in the financial and commercial printing markets."

Last month, Extel acquired a 75 per cent stake in MGE, a company supplying software packages and computer systems

Mr Brooker added: "At the end of the year we expect to be able to report continued progress throughout the group."

Airline takes on the charter operators

BA in Atlantic fightback

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

British Airways is launching a new subsidiary, Poundstretcher, as a direct competitor to the low-price transatlantic holidays and airseats operation of Jetsave, recently bought by the rival British Caledonian.

At the same time British Airways announced that the founder of Jetsave, Mr Reg Pycroft, would be joining it. Mr Pycroft left Jetsave, which pioneered cheap transatlantic flights, while it was still part of Associated Communications Corporation.

But British Airways says he will have no connexion with the new Poundstretcher operation because of an agreement when he left Jetsave that precludes him from working on a comparable operation until March 1985.

Mr Pycroft has been taken on as a consultant, and has a priority job of finding ways to switch cheap remaindered British Airways tickets out of "bucket shops" and into high street travel agents.


Reg Pycroft: joining British Airways

The aim is to put discounted tickets to European destinations into the travel agents. At present, between 2 million and 3 million such seats are not being filled.

The Poundstretcher, which takes up a name used by British Airways in earlier advertising campaigns, will be offering 100,000 seats annually from next April on scheduled and charter flights out of Heathrow, Gatwick, Prestwick and Manchester. The seats will at first be mainly on flights to north America.

Poundstretcher prices will be "keenly competitive but not necessarily rock bottom," according to Mr Harris. Where scheduled services are used prices will not be below normal schedule fares on offer but various extras, yet to be finally decided, will be added.

Both holiday packages and seats-only deals will be on offer. It is common with this style of marketing to offer low price hotel deals, cheaper car hire and free drinks and complementary flight bags on flights.

Jetsave has been a big user of British Airways charter and scheduled services. The contract runs to the end of next summer.

Norton Opax on course

By Jeremy Warner

Norton Opax
Half-year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £388,000 (£277,000)
Stated earnings 2.59p (1.74p)
Turnover £4.5m (£3.7m)
Net interim dividend 1p (0.67p)

Norton Opax, the Leeds security printer, is on course for achieving its forecast of full-year trading profits of £1.25m made at the time of its unsuccessful bid for John Waddington in July.

At the half-way stage, pretax profits jumped from £277,000 to £388,000 and the interim dividend is being raised from 0.67p to 1p.

The £4.7m acquisition of Broadprint Group is not expected to be completed until December 8 and so will only make a small contribution to full-year results.

Orders to supply six additional national lotteries, bringing the total number of countries supplied to 29, have recently been won. The initial value of the new work is over £1m and this will make a contribution to results in 1984.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Rotaprint
Half-year to 1.10.83
Pretax loss £165,000 (£35,000)
Turnover £7.4m (£6.5m)

James Burrough
Half-year to 31.8.83
Pretax profit £4m (£2.5m)
Stated earnings 13.7p (8.7p)
Turnover £24.1m (£21.5m)
Net interim dividend 3p (2.2p)

Hanover Investment (Holdings)
Half-year to 31.8.83
Pretax profit £208,000 (£101,000)
Stated earnings 3.02p (1.67p)
Turnover £2.2m (828,000)
Net interim dividend 0.77p (0.7p)

Thomas Locker (Holdings)
Half-year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £940,000 (£1.2m)
Stated earnings 1.05p (1.28p)
Turnover £12.5m (£14m)
Net interim dividend 0.375p (same)

French Kier Holdings
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pretax profit £5.7m (£4.9m)
Stated earnings 6.4p (5.5p)
Turnover £118m (107m)
Net interim dividend 1.45p (1.25p)

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK ● edited by Michael Prest

Weak rand boosts Anglo American

It seems churlish to cavil at a 12.6 per cent increase in group attributable profits, but Anglo American Corporation's performance owed more to the weakness of the rand rather than to spectacular success in selling its services and products.

This year's interim figures shadow those of 1982 pretty closely, with the crucial exception of the two lines – "dividends from associated companies" and "dividends from general investments". In the first case, earnings rose from R132m (£77m) to R156m, and in the second from R47.7m to R69.7m.

In the accountancy jargon, these lines are effectively the earnings from gold. It is worth remembering, to put the bare figures in perspective, that Anglo's group interests produce about a quarter of the gold in the West. But gold prices have not been higher this year than last.

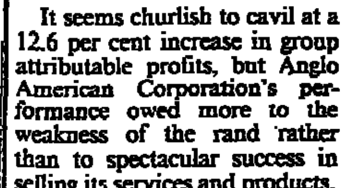
So the answer is the rand. Fortunately for the South African mines the weakness of the gold price and the internal problems of the Republic's economy have combined with the strength of the dollar, in which of course gold is denominated, to keep profits up. Anglo was also fortunate in receiving two dividends from Rustenburg Platinum.

But even the rand effect has not been enough to offset the collapse in world coal prices. Amcoal its coal subsidiary has been struggling for a while and without the surge in South African property prices which improved the results at Amprops its property subsidiary trading profits, which were just R3m up at R3m up at R140m, would have been worse.

Interest paid up from R88.5m, was a reflection of both the high interest rates prevailing in South Africa, and grater outlays.

The result was pretax profits of R350m against R323. While the taxh bill was largely unaltered at R59.4m outside shareholders intersts fel a little, to give the rise at the attributable level.

But the investments associate company, Minorco's difficulties were exemplified by the R5.7m decline in the share of profits from associated compeinies to R89.1m. The very bottom of Anglo's many lines, therefore, was profit before extraordinary items of R330m, a rise of 6.8 per cent.



Boots

The Boots Company looks set for a long period of sustained profits growth. Yesterday's half-year statement indicates excellent prospects for the pharmaceuticals division while the group appears to be getting to grips with the long-term problems posed by the retailing side of the business.

In the six months to the end of September pretax profits rose by 24.5 per cent from £52.3m to £65.1m. They would have been a lot better but for a £6m provision in retailing against the clawback of chemists' remuneration by the Department of Health and Social Security.

Even so, retailing profits made a gain against the poor results of the corresponding period and after adding back in the provision, profit margins in the chemists have shown a marked improvement, rising from 2.87 per cent last time to 4 per cent.

Though the retailing side had a good second half last year, the current Christmas season is off to a buoyant start and there is evidence that the shop-within-shop concept being experimented at three branches is beginning to do the trick of improving the traditionally low level of average spending by Boots customers.

But it is in the United States that the real excitement for Boots lies. In the first half sales by the US subsidiary rose 70 per cent to £19.3m while profits rose several times over on the back of Rufen which has improved its share of Upjohn's Motrin market from 5.5 per cent a year ago to 11 per cent now.

In Britain Nurofen, a new pain killing drug, has already achieved its sales targets in the over-the-counter market for the whole of this year, which augurs well for its success in the US. The US Food and Drugs Administration approval for it is expected soon.

Redland

Everything in Redland's brick and concrete garden is looking rosy. Half time profits to the end of September were up 40 per cent and shareholders get a 13 per cent lift in the interim dividend.

Trading in the second half is continuing at buoyant levels and although increases here are unlikely to be as high as the opening half, Redland looks on course for pretax profits of £85m for the 12 months to next March.

That would give a 26 per cent profits rise over 1982/83, and show substantial recovery from 1980/81 when profits fell to £46.8m.

In the United Kingdom, profits rose by 14 per cent with the construction materials supplying new housing sector and the repair and maintenance sector particularly strong. West Germany is benefiting from reduced costs and better margins on an upturn in the housing markets. Similar strong housing activity and road spending substantially benefited Redland in the US.

But its Pacific basin associate, Mix Moniers, returned profits below last year's level. However, in the second half these should benefit from a drop in Australian interest rates.

A major boost generally is likely to be seen in the brick industry which has been selling at as much as 60 per cent discount on list prices.

On a group turnover up from £493.1m to £526.1m, Redland pushed pretax profits from £29.1m to £40.5m. The figure was £6m above the market's best expectation.

Although good figures had already been anticipated, the share rose 5p to 268p. Redland does not share the gloomy views beginning to come from the construction industry.

Argyll Group profit jumps by £8.1m

By Andrew Cornelius

Argyll Group
Half-year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £18.1m (£10m)
Stated earnings 7.7p (4.6p)
Turnover £697m (£595m)
Net interim dividend 1.75p
Share price 140p down 3p
Dividend payable 20.1.84

Argyll Group, the new holding company for Mr James Gulliver's Argyll Foods and Amalgamated Distilled Products companies, yesterday reported an £8.1m increase in pretax profits to £18.1m for the six months to September 30.

The results were achieved on a turnover of £697.6m, against £595.8m at the comparable stage last year, when Argyll Foods and ADP traded separately.

Mr Gulliver, said that the first half results put Argyll Group on course for its previous forecast of pretax profits of £36.5m for the full year.

The board has recommended payment of an interim dividend of 1.75p net, and expects to recommend a final dividend of 2.75p at the final stage.

Mr Gulliver said that the group is continuing to trade strongly and that early expectations are that the Christmas trading period will be satisfactory.

The Presto foof stores chain increased its turnover by 16 per cent to £270m, about 40 per cent of total group turnover. The result was helped by increased sales from the existing stores and the opening of two new stores at Stourridge, West Midlands and Portsmouth.

A further 12 stores will be opened by next March, including six new Key Markets developments which were acquired from Dee Corporation in a £6m deal earlier this month. This will bring the number of Presto stores to 150 and Mr Gulliver is confident that he will achieve the target of opening 20 new stores each year by 1985.

Argyll's other retail businesses, which include the Liptons and Templeton stores, also managed strong volume growth, while Mojo and Snowking, the wholeale distribution businesses maintained their contribution

Trading profits of the former Argyll Foods group increased from £9.2m to £13.7m.

ADP, the Scotch whisky division, reported increased trading profits of £4.4m against losses of £52,000 last time, helped by a £290,000 contribution from the acuisition of Barton Brands, the US drinks business which have Scottish whisky operation.

Barton made increased operating profits of £4.2m on sales of £61.5m with strong growth in demand for gin, vodka and tequila coming through.

There was also an improved contribution from the Liquorsave group of off-licences.

£27m BSC deal with TI will cut 400 jobs

By Our Financial Staff

TI Group and the British Steel Corporation have agreed a £27m deal to rationalize seamless tube manufacturing interests in Corby and Wednesfield in the West Midlands with the loss of 400 jobs.

The two companies said yesterday that the decision to establish a new company to be called Seamless Tubes could lead to the closure of TI's Pilger Mill in Wednesfield and the hot mill section of BSC's plug mill at Corby.

BSC will take a 74.5 per cent stake in the new company and TI Group a 25.5 per cent stake. The new company will employ 1,200 people and help ensure that Britain remains competitive in the seamless tube market where there is oversupply of 200,000 tonnes each year.

BSC and TI first discussed the possibility of merging their tube manufacturing businesses in 1979. But after a brief upsurge in demand from the oil industry the talks lapsed and did not resume again until the market turned down again about 15 months ago.

The essence of the plan is to close BSC's loss-making plug mill in Corby and transfer production to the TI plant at Wednesfield which is regarded as the most modern plant in the British steel industry.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES
Rubber in £s per tonne; Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton; Gas-oil in US $ per metric ton.

RUBBER	
Dec	835–30
Jan	840–30
Jan/Mch	838–32
Apl/Jne	848–46
Jul/Sep	861–60
Oct/Dec	874–72
Jan/Mch	890–84
Apl/Jne	905–00
Jul/Sep	917–14
Vol:	236
SUGAR	
Dec	146.50–44.50
Mch	162.25–62.00
May	168.00–67.25
Vol:	1614.
COCOA	
Dec	1614–10
Mar	1624–23
May	1621–20
July	1619–18
Sep	1620–19
Dec	1630–27
Mar	1638–36
Vol:	4.391
Tone: Weak.	
COFFEE	
Nov	1917–1915
Jan	1925–23
Mar	1890–1888
May	1822–1818
July	1780–1770
Sep	1755–1750
Nov	1729–25
Vol:	2.901
GAS OIL	
Nov	240.75–40.50
Dec	243.75–43.50
Jan	243.75–43.50
Feb	241.75–41.50
Mar	237.00–36.50
Apl	234.00–32.50
May	233.25–32.50
Jun	232.50–321.50
Jul	232.50–29.75
Vol:2.228	

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Unofficial prices: Official turnover figures.
Prices in pounds per metric ton
Silver in pence per troy ounce
Rudolf Wolff & Co. Ltd. report

COPPER HIGH GRADE	
Cash	965.50–966.50
Three months	988.50–989.00
T/O	11525
Tone: Barely steady.	
STANDARD CATHODES	
Cash	950.50–951.50
Three months	972.00–974.00
T/O	nil
Tone: Idle.	
TIN STANDARD	
Cash	8680–8690
Three months	8806–8808
T/O:	175.
Tone: Steady.	
TIN HIGH-GRADE	
Cash	8790–8795
Three months	8830–8835
T/O:	100.
Tone: Steady.	
LEAD	
Cash	276.50–277.00
Three months	286.25–286.50
T/O:	14000.
Tone: Steady.	
ZINC	
Cash	577.50–578.50
Three months	592.50–593.00
T/O:	2100.
Tone: Steady.	
SILVER SMALL	
Three months	595.0–597.0
T/O:	nil.
Tone: Idle.	
ALUMINIUM	
Cash	1046.50–1047.50
Three months	1073.50–1074.00
T/O:	11.825
Tone: Steady at the higher levels.	
NICKEL	
Cash	3105–3115
Three months	3185–3190
T/O:	1188
Tone: Very steady.	

LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET
In US $ per oz.

Dec	376.30–376.50
Feb	382.00–382.70
Apl	388.00–388.90
Jun	394.30–394.70
Aug	400.20–400.70
Vol:	248.
	Tone: Quiet.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES
Rudolf Wolff Financial Services Ltd.

Month	Volume	Settlement
YEN		
Dec	68	4260
Mar'84	10	4300
Jun'84	–	4335
Comment: Firm.		
STERLING		
Dec	197	14650
Mar'84	226	14675
Jun'84	–	14700
Comment: Weaker.		
D-MARK		
Dec	97	3701
Mar'84	–	3733
Jun'84	–	3768
Comment: Stable.		
SWISS FRANC		
Dec	–	4604
Mar'84	–	4670
Jun'84	–	4741
Comment: Quiet.		
EURODOLLARS		
Dec	415	9029
Mar'84	212	8987
Jun'84	52	8955
Sep'84	18	8927
Dec'84	–	8898
Comment: Steady.		
SHORT STERLING		
Dec	102	9085
Mar'84	215	9053
Jun'84	45	9031
Sep'84	–	9000
Dec'84	–	8980
Comment: Dull.		

GILTS			
Dec	2659		10909
Mar'84	229		10825
June'84	15		10812
Sept'84	70	10731	
Dec'84			10718
Comment: Very Mixed			

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on November 24.
GB: Cattle, 99.16p per kg lw (+0.44).
GB: Sheep, 139.68p per kg est d c w (+6.40).
GB: Pigs, 81.67p per kg lw (+1.65).
England and Wales:
Cattle nos. up 4.7 per cent, ave. price, 98.44p (+0.10).
Sheep nos. down 11.1 per cent, ave. price, 140.66p (+7.15).
Pig nos. down 2.8 per cent, ave. price, 81.67p (+1.65).
Scotland:
Cattle nos. up 15.0 per cent, ave. price, 101.97p (+1.59).
Sheep nos. down 7.4 per cent, ave. price, 136.79p (+4.22).

London Grain Futures Market

Month	WHEAT "B" Close	BARLEY Close
Jan	£120.00	119.25
Mar	£123.00	122.20
May	£126.00	124.25
Jly	£128.85	–
Sep	£114.00	–

Total lots traded
Wheat "B": 143
Barley: 82

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Japan Two: Graham Searjeant and John Lawless look at the export circus

Shadow boxing that keeps export drives in low gear

A bizarre event took place in Kensington's Royal Garden Hotel last week. A group of Japanese businessmen and retailers, headed by Mr Yohei Mimura, president of Mitsubishi Corporation, conducted a seminar for British businessmen to help them export to Japan.

That any manufacturing country should actually encourage competitive imports is extraordinary enough despite the £2.5 billion trade gap. The response of the invited British audience, three times larger than expected, was, on the surface, even more amazing.

After the Japanese had spent an hour lecturing their guests on how to tackle the notorious – if not obviously too different – Japanese distribution system, how to get involved in joint ventures and win royalties by licensing technology, the British simply complained. They had heard it all before, they said. Unless letting off steam is a great boon to international trading relations, the meeting could not be called a success.

The reactions of the nine Japanese businessmen on the Japanese Market Access Promotion Mission ranged from philosophical cheerfulness among those well-versed in the ways of the West to the suppressed anger of some to whom this was a new experience.

The meeting could not be called a success

But it was good training on relatively welcoming ground. The circus then flew off to Brussels and four other European industrial centres. It was Paris they were really dreading.

That all these leading businessmen were prepared to jet round the world taking such punishment shows how seriously Japan takes the threat of protectionism posed by its hefty trade surpluses with America, Britain and the rest of the European Community.

A large proportion of key Japanese exports are subject to discriminatory quota restrictions throughout the great citadels of free trade and the political pressures are growing greater daily.

The mission also underlined a cohesiveness in Japan Limited that many see as the heart of the problem. It is inconceivable that British or American store owners would undertake such a task for the sake of machinery exporters.

Since Britain is still running an overall trading surplus, it has no logical trade grievance against Japan. The existence of an imbalance between two individual countries is an irrelevance, an intrinsic element in a multilateral world trade system.

If there is a problem it lies not in imports from Japan so much as the failure of exports to Japan to match the potential of a single market of 115 million people with high discretionary spending power.

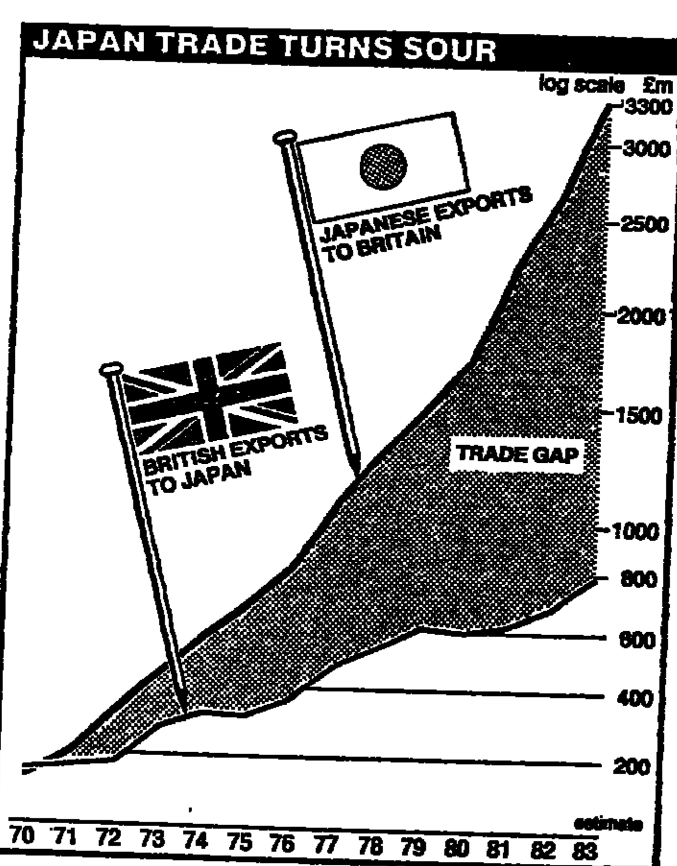
Why is this so? For some time, exporters have not been able to complain about Japanese tariffs. Though these are still skewed against certain exportable products, the old protection has long gone. In cars for instance, Japan levies no tariff, though we levy more than 10 per cent.

The emphasis then switched to non-tariff barriers. At the seminar, for instance, BL's Mr Ray Horrocks, who sells a negligible 1,200 Jaguars and 400 Minis a year to Japan (about the same as 10 years ago) explained that he had "a superb relationship with Honda. But once you get head-to-head with Japanese administration and bureaucracy, you have enormous problems.

Once when we put an additional serial number on to our engine block, they stopped our car. And when Lucas changed the serial number on one component within a lamp-assembly we fitted, they did the same thing."

It was Paris the Japanese businessmen were dreading

Mr Keinosuke Inazuki of the Japan Automobile Importers Association could plausibly deflate this argument as largely a thing of the past. And Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) can point to its trade ombudsman, charged with investigating complaints of bureaucratic obstructions, to its current review of standards and testing procedures, or to its 124 business consultants stationed in European cities to aid the distressed would-be importer.



That leaves a general feeling of sheer frustration as European exporters are urged to be patient and try harder. "British companies export something like 30 per cent of our GNP yet we find it extraordinarily difficult to export to Japan", charged the CBI's Mr Ken Edwards. "There must be positive discrimination to encourage imports".

JETRO, the Japan External Trade Organization, which is undergoing a schizophrenic about-face from export to import promotion can even provide answers to that. Japan has recently introduced an interest rate subsidy for importers The prime minister Mr Nakasome himself earlier this year appealed to incredulous Japanese people for their "understanding and co-operation in welcoming foreign manufactured goods and investment", not a plea too many democratic politicians would hazard in election year.

Yet the Nomura Research Institute is still forecasting a rise from $7 billion to $21 billion in Japan's current account balance of payments this year, with only a marginal fall next year.

Leaving America's self-imposed exchange-rate handicap to one side, is there any reason why Japan, as the champion industrial country, should not run a continuing trade surplus matched by investment abroad, just as Britain did in the old days?

Perhaps the emphasis on exports to Japan should be seen merely as an elaborate form of shadow-boxing, a proxy for the real battle to limit (or safeguard) Japanese exports.

There is little evidence that Britain and Europe regard Japan as a market consonant in importance with its position as the world's number two economy.

There are, for instance, more than 10 times as many Japanese business people working in the European Community countries as European traders in Japan. The British export marketing centre in Tokyo, a brainchild of the Heath era, has close, despite Japanese aid in recent years.

It should be said, however, that the trade department's Export to Japan unit is one of its most vigorous and the only one devoted to a single country.

Perhaps the biggest cultural factor behind the trade imbalance is the language barrier. English has been Japan's first foreign language since the war. Yet in Britain, only four British univerisities have schools of Japanese, some of those aided by Japan. The first sign that we were taking the Japanese market seriously would be a rapid explosion of Japanese language teasching in this country.

Britain sells about £800m of industrial and consumer goods annually to Japan, with a highly successful trade in pharmaceuticals and ethnic luxury goods from cashmere to dartboards. The biggest opportunities in the Japanese market lie in food. Perhaps, despite all the bluster, Britain's exporters are right to give greater priority to Europe, the Middle East and rising Commonwealth markets.

'There must be positive discrimination to help imports'

As hard-headed new British Overseas Trade Board study of opportunities for Anglo-Japanese joint ventures in the transport sector, while pointing to specialized markets for fire-fighting vehicles and the like, warns that "we cannot overstate the problems in the long and difficult task of pursuing these opportunities. Anyone with the lack of will, finance and perseverance to commit themselves fully would be well advised not to attempt it."

Between the lines, the report implies tht the best hope is to form joint ventures to neutralize Japanese encroachment in existing third country markets.

Some of the complaints at last week's seminar point the same way. Japan's motor distributors, it seems, are already tied up with Japanese firm. Middle managers, who often make the real purchasing decisions, need re-educating to accept imports.

Yet these are precisely the conditions which prevailed in Britain a generation ago, until industrial decay, bad design and unreliable, strike-hit domestic supplies opened the way for a re-consideration of foreign goods. Given these problems, it is clear that if British industry was to make any concerted assault on the Japanese market, it would have to adopt the tactics employed by Japanese industry.

We would set up substantial presence on the ground in Japan. We should exploit our many superb but under-promoted international brand names to sell a wider range of goods.

English is Japan's first foreign language

And we should adopt the rifle-shot approach, targeting certain areas for export pushes by a combination of collaborating firms.

Ironically, Japan's huge appetite for eating humble pie as a cheap method of appeasing European industry tends to deter any such heroic assault by offering the ever-tantalizing prospect of unofficial protection against Japanese imports on the one hand and red carpet treatment for our goods on the other.

Japan's government and industry is highly cautious. It might be better if they took a more aggressive line, refusing to renew voluntary restraint agreements and challenging Europe to live up to its formal free trade policy.

Only when all hopes of protectionism are gone will European businessmen be forced to stop whingeing and and take the Japanese market seriously.

Industrial notebook

London in late bid to make its mark

A meeting at the House of Commons today will attempt to create a rallying force to bring a new EEC agency to London.

The Prime Minister is keen to have the agency – the Community Trade Marks Office – in this country. It would be a manifestation of the British commitment to the EEC (and vice versa) and a small but visible demonstration of the benefits to Mrs Thatcher's electorate of Community membership.

Trade marks are a motif or wording registered by a manufacturer and used to make products immediately recognizable.

A trade mark is valuable property, and so is the tradé marks office. The Commission believes it would handle more than 15,000 "proceedings" a year. It would employ about 200 people, but perhaps another 1,800 would be employed in the offices of trade mark agents and lawyers.

But the case for London has been put forward timidly and with a lack of coordination. London is far from being favourite to receive the office.

Today's late rallying call has been organized by Iain Mills, the Conservative MP for Meriden, West Midlands, and parliamentary private secretary to Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry. He has invited the Lord Mayor of London, peers, MPs, MEPs, trade mark agents and big trademark holders in industry.

Mr Mills wants the participants to form a national committee for the siting of the trade mark office in London. It would then "call a meeting of anybody who is interested, and get the entire three sections – commerce and industry, the trade marks profession and Parliament – all working together".

The siting of the new office is likely to be settled within six months. But a visitor to the office of the EEC Commissioner responsible for the office, Herr Karl-Heinz Narjes, comes away with the impression that London, the home of not one EEC institution, has a long way to go to catch up other European cities.

The Hague is being spoken of as a front runner, but Munich is also a strong contender. Five years ago, the EEC patent office went to Munich after another uncoordinated attempt by Britain. Having the patent office is one advantage that Munich has over London is the present battle. Another is the understanding between the German Chancellor, Herr Kohl, and the Bavarian leader, Herr Strauss – and the understanding between them and the German business community a commitment and an ability to press hard in Brussels for the trade mark office to be sited in Munich.

So tempting is the office that a number of other British cities, among them Birmingham, Manchester and Swansea, put in bids at one time or another. This was embarrassing for the Government since it had already told Brussels that London was its preferred site.

Until the office is set up, manufactuers must register – and protect – their trade mark in each of the 10 EEC countries, each with its own language and procedures. Most applicants to the British office are EEC companies.

In this country, Trade Mark No. 1, registered when the Department of Trade's registry opened in 1876, was the red triangle which adorns the labels of Bass beers. No. 2 was another drinks company, the Monastery of La Grande Chartreuse, followed by the King of Saxony who was determined to protect in Britain the marks used by the "Royal manufactory of Meissen."

The millionth mark, registered eight years ago, was by Pierre Fabre, a French pharmaceuticals company.

Mrs Thatcher is having circulated copies of the Greater London Council's pitch for the office. Given that the Government is pledged to abolishing the GLC, the document could become a collector's item.

Yet neither Mrs Thatcher nor Mr Tebbit can argue in Brussels ... as the Germans can ... that they "cannot" give ground because they are being leaned on by MPs, in turn under pressure from trade mark agents and trade holders.

According to Mr Mills, "the level of House of Commons interest in those days in intellectual property was just about zero. It's now about zero plus one or two."

Ross Davies

YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Village shops look to the giants for help

By Derek Harris

A plan aimed at rescuing up to 3,000 village shops now running into financial problems is under discussion between the Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas (Cosira) and the Retail Consortium, which represents more than 90 per cent of Britain's retailers.

The major clearing banks and local authorities are likely to be drawn into the discussions.

One possibility is that big multiple retailers like J Sainsbury, Tesco Stores, Marks & Spencer and British Home Stores may help by seconding executives for counselling work with the village shops.

The plan has sprung out of pioneering work by Cosira, part of the Development Commission, in rescuing village shops where the retailer is the only shop in a village. Cosira had already widened its scheme from rural areas of special need to the whole of England because of the size of the problem.

There are about 12,000 villages with a single shop, according to Mr John White, Cosira's retail officer whose team of retail consultants for counselling work among village shops has recently been strengthened to eight. He estimates that 6,000 of these are likely to go to the wall within five years unless something is done to help them.

He said: "If the right skill and expertise can be injected, half of those under threat could be saved to the point where at least they would be breaking even."

Cosira research suggests that the typical village shop with a turnover of £60,000 a year is barely producing a net profit.

Initial discussions between Cosira and the Retail Consortium were held this week and the Consortium's Food Policy Committee has agreed to consider detailed plans to be drawn up by Cosira.

The committee's chairman, Mr Terence Spratt, chairman and managing director of Safeway Food Stores, said: "Small shops can survive even when there is a big supermarket nearby provided they go for specialist areas of goods and the sort of personal service which the big multiples by their very nature cannot give in the same way."

Lack of expertise in the village shop is probably the biggest single problem, he suggested.

This has been Cosira's experience because although it has limited financial resources its counselling service has been rescuing shops in difficulties. Refitting and reorganization, particularly in developing specialist lines like delicatessen, and adding services like newspaper sales, have increased turnover by 50 per cent or more.

The Co-Operative Union, umbrella body for the co-operative retail societies, aware of the social aspects of keeping retailing outlets open in small communities, already where possible keep open such small Co-ops even if they only break even or run at a small loss.

Cosira hopes soon to set up a series of training seminars around the country for those about to take on village shops. Many people take on businesses with insufficient capital and little awareness of the practical implications like the low profit margins, the long hours and the need for strict administrative discipline to cope with matters like Value Added Tax returns and the control of the product ranges.

Another idea being explored by Mr White is the setting up of an investment fund which through loans or grants could help shops judged to be socially necessary. Typically a shopkeeper could be helped to instal modern cash tills and other equipment such as chill cabinets.

There have already been some attempts to help small shops on these lines. Northumberland County Council has been running a grant scheme in rural areas which has enabled shopkeepers to buy equipment.

● Contact: Cosira, 141 Castle Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 3TP; telephone (0722) 336255.

£12m for new enterprise

By Wayne Lintott

Merchant bankers Guiness Mahon in partnership with a specialist company, Venture Founders, that provides high-risk capital for small businesses and pure start-ups, are making £12m available for new schemes, new companies or small businesses seeking to expand.

The Guinness Mahon Venture Founders Fund already has £8m committed and is seeking to raise a further £4m. The sources of capital are mainly local authority and corporate pension funds backed up by insurance company money.

The new fund has found a particular niche because the new Business Expansion Schemes have diverted a great deal of capital away from greenfield projects. Mr Charles Duff, a director of Venture Founders, said that the company is particularly keen to invest in new projects.

Unlike the BES funds, Venture Founders will not be charging the companies fees. They will also provide a non-executive director to help with management and financial control. Initially, the fund will make between £100,000 to £500,000 available but more can be forthcoming as a business expands.

A whole new world of Minors back from the dead

Charles Ware has turned a conservation philosophy to profit. His Morris Minor Centre in Bath, dedicated to the restoration of the cars that have become classics, offers what he claims is a dramatically cheaper way of motoring through refurbishing an elderly vehicle.

The already successful venture will be expanded next year through half a dozen franchise deals with garages throughout the country, *writes Geoffrey Ellis.*

Ware *left, with Minors,* argues that rather than spending heavily on a new car, with built in obsolescence and depreciating capital, money can be better spent on an elderly car, fully refurbished, both mechanically and bodily. By doing this, he claims the cost per mile could show a drop from 21.59 pence to 10.61 pence.

His business, which has grown over the last eight years now has 34 employees

CDA hunting for cash

■ The Co-operative Development Agency, with a life extended by the Government for six years to continue promoting industrial and other co-operatives, has gained new powers to raise money from the sector. Eventually it could mean grants and loans for co-operatives, *Derek Harris writes.*

The most immediate expansion of the agency's work will be in at least doubling the number of executives seconded from established companies to act as counsellers to co-operatives, especially those newly-forming. Mr George Jones, the agency's director, has already seen the birthrate of co-operatives jump by a half in the past 12 months, with the agency involved in rather more than a half of them.

Government funding of the agency will be running at £200,000 a year but Mr Jones hopes to increase this by as much again by tapping EEC sources and private sector industry and commerce. Companies have continued to pay executive's salaries when they are seconded to agency work for a period.

Contact: Co-operative Development Agency, 20 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TJ.

■ A one-day conference to investigate the problems facing small and medium-sized retailers will be held at the Hilton Hotel, London, on December 13. It is the third of a series organized by the Retail Consortium.

Attendance is free because the costs are being met by the EEC as part of its programme of assistance highlighted this year. The second seminar in the series, being held today in Glasgow was sold out some time ago and only a few places are left at the London seminar.

Contact: Letters only to the Retail Consortium, Palladium House, 1 Argyll Street, London W1V 1AD.

MR FRIDAY Ken Pyne



'Good heavens, no! We're not discriminating against *you* – we don't like ANY small firms!'

Shell goes into a workshop partnership

Work in the youth sandwich

By Jonathan Clare

The factory in Ellesmere Port where Shell once carried out the messy business of filling cans with bitumen has been turned into a pioneering set of workshops for small firms.

Turning large amounts of factory space, surplus to the requirements of big companies, into workshops is not new. The partnership between Shell UK and the two local authorities, while still novel, is hardly unique.

But the Canal Bridge Enterprise Centre, Just off the M53, combines an information technology resource centre, with 60 students, and a Youth Training Scheme on the same site as the workshops. Youth at each end with work sandwiched in between, as one of the developers put it. Small businesses taking space are given some protection against the full rigours of the outside world but they are not immune to the financial realities of life.

The 72,000 sq ft former Colas factory was originally put on the market by Shell. But it later decided to turn the plant into workshops with the two local authorities, one of which received a £300,000 Government grant to help get it off the ground.

The site provides 22 units ranging in size from 300sq ft – about the size of a large garage – to 1,800 sq ft. Since the new units became available in June, 16 have been let. Of the remaining six, four are the subject of discussions.

The rents are inclusive of rates, insurance and other charges and work out at about £90 a month for the smallest units and £300 for the largest – levels which are hardly commercial and considerably undercut the rents which might be charged by the English Industrial Estates Corporation. The rents are paid monthly with a month's notice to quit. This means that if a would-be entrepreneur is faced with failure he is not saddled with a long lease on his premises as an additional worry.

A second phase providing about another 25 units should be ready by January. This phase will include some office space, a lesson learned from the first phase – people working in small workshops need all their space for production leaving little for administration.

Tenants in the first phase include a manufacturer of airbrake components, a motor accessories distributor, a roadworks contractor and a manufacturer of pre-cast concrete products. There are also two start-ups – a business supplying and hiring survey equipment and a recycler of non-ferrous metals – in other words, an old-fashioned scrap merchant.

Mr Laurie O'Neill, the general manager of Entep Properties, part of Entep Trust, the consortium set up by Shell and the local authorities, said it was trying to cover the whole commercial scene. Businesses are expected to show a normal cash flow: "It's not a protected environment in that sense. We offer the lowest possible prices."

Advice is also available for those who want it but there is no pressure to take it. Mr O'Neill said: "If a firm is very successful over say two years and wants to move into a 10,000 sq ft unit the disciplines they face here will allow them to face real life."

also on page 30

هكذا من الأصل

Drought boosts Borthwick profits

By Vivien Goldsmith

Thomas Borthwick & Sons
Year to 2.10.1983
Pretax profit £3.8m (£358,000)
Stated earnings 7.27p (loss 1.76p)
Turnover £539.8m (£536.2m)
Net final dividend 0.01p
Share price 25p Yield 0.057

Thomas Borthwick and Sons which processes meat and retails it through its Matthews chain of butchers has continued its climb from dismal losses and reported pretax profits 10 times higher than this time last year, at £3.8m.

But as the company predicted when it announced half time profits of £3.09m for the six months to April, the vast bulk of these profits were earned at the beginning of the year. This was due to the disastrous drought in Australia and New Zealand which caused farmers to send cattle for slaughter because of a shortage of food. Now the volume of business is depressed.

Mr Brian Lund, the financial director, said the second half figures were better than he had expected. The Australian division made a slight profit over the whole year.

A nominal dividend of 0.01p is being paid to retain eligibility for investment by trustees.

Beef trading from New Zealand made profits which offset the earlier losses made on old season's lamb.

Midland Cattle Products, which makes suet, lard and dripping, returned to profit as did the bakery division. Overall turnover was marginally higher at £539.85m as opposed to £536.23m last year. The shares were unchanged at 25p.

Channel 4 losses cannot go on, warns LWT chief

By Jeremy Warner

The losses of Channel 4 television cannot be allowed to continue for much longer, Mr John Freeman, the outgoing chairman of London Weekend Television has warned in a strongly worded critique of the effects of the new channel on independent television finances.

Writing in the parent company's annual report, sent to shareholders yesterday, Mr Freeman said: "The present bleeding of ITV through Channel 4 cannot be allowed to flow unstaunched for very long. I hope that advertisers and Channel 4 itself will jointly provide the remedy and that it will not become necessary for the Independent Broadcasting Authority to apply the tourniquet."

It was recently confirmed that the 15 independent television companies will have to pay an additional £20m to cover the costs of the new channel next year. This is on top of this year's £123m plus £5m of interest.

Given the current recovery in advertising revenue, Channel 4 is a burden that can just about be supported. But the companies are increasingly being handicapped by a growing drain on their resources which is outside their control, Mr Freeman said.

Mr Freeman is just one of a growing number of executives in independent television to criticize the current Channel 4 set-up – under which the companies fund the venture but have no say in its day-to-day management. But he is the first to warn so explicitly that it may not be tolerated for very much longer.

His criticism of the channel also runs deeper than most. He warns that the hope that Channel 4 will establish audience loyalty within the next year is still only a hope and that it would prove a dubious gain if catering for minorities on Channel 4 could in the long term be achieved only at the expense of the vast majority of main ITV channel viewers.

SE ruling may hit Americans

By Michael Prest

The Government will introduce next spring an order empowering it to implement harmonization of British Stock Exchange rules and listing requirements with the Commission's minimum criteria. So far, the process has taken nine years. Ironically, foreign companies are more likely to be affected than British.

Since many of the directives' requirements are already standard practice in London, little should change for British companies. But it would be different for American companies. Those listed on either the New York or American Stock Exchange are now deemed to meet most of London's listing requirements. To be officially dealt in here, they need not issue a prospectus. A London listing is therefore cheap.

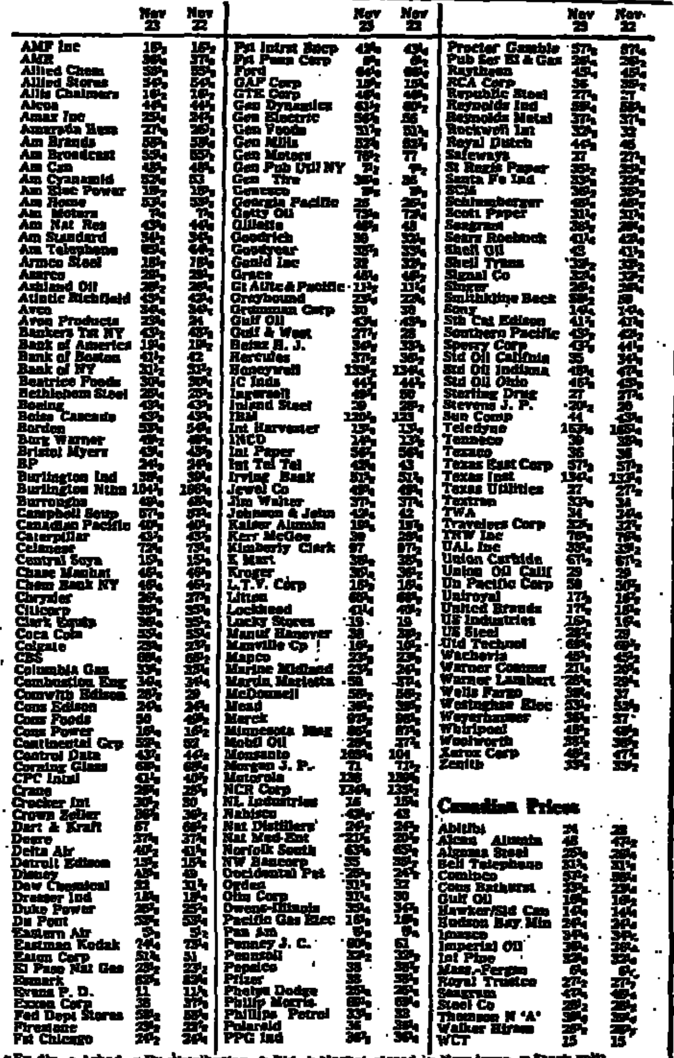
If an American company had to prepare a prospectus and other paperwork the Commission wants, listing would become more costly.

Mexico to sell back companies

Mexico City (Reuter) – The Mexican Government, which last year nationalized banks and their subsidiaries, will soon begin selling 400 bank-owned companies back to the private sector, Senor Jusus Silva Herzog, the Finance Minister, reported.

In September, 1982, the state took over the entire banking system to stop the flight of capital as it implemented an urgent austerity programme to combat a crippling foreign debt of $85bn (£58bn).

In an apparent attempt to dispel fears among businessmen that the government was moving towards a state-run economy, Senor Silva Herzog stressed that the cabinet had never intended to retain control of the 400 companies.



WALL STREET

	Nov 23	Nov 22
AMF Inc	16½	16½
AMR	36⅝	37⅝
Allied Chem	55¾	55¾
Allied Stores	54½	54¾
Allis Chalmers	16½	16½
Alcoa	44⅞	44⅞
Amax Inc	25¼	24¾
Amerada Hess	27⅞	28⅛
Am Brands	58⅝	58¾
Am Broadcast	65¾	65½
Am Can	48⅞	48⅝
Am Cyanamid	53⅞	53
Am Elec Power	18⅞	18⅞
Am Home	53⅛	53⅝
Am Motors	7⅝	7⅞
Am Nat Res	43⅝	44⅛
Am Standard	34⅞	34⅞
Am Telephone	65⅝	64⅞
Armco Steel	18⅝	18⅝
Asarco	28⅞	28⅞
Ashland Oil	28⅞	28⅞
Atlntic Richfield	45⅞	45¾
Avco	34¾	34⅞
Avon Products	23¾	24
Bankers Tst NY	43⅞	43⅞
Bank of America	19⅞	19⅞
Bank of Boston	41½	42
Bank of NY	31½	32½
Beatrice Foods	30⅝	30⅝
Bethlehem Steel	25¾	25⅞
Boeing	43⅞	43⅞
Boise Cascade	45⅞	45⅞
Borden	53⅞	54⅛
Borg Warner	49½	48⅞
Bristol Myers	43¾	43⅝
BP	24⅛	24⅞
Burlington Ind	38⅛	39⅛
Burlington Nthn	104½	106⅝
Burroughs	49⅞	48⅞
Campbell Soup	57⅞	57⅞
Canadian Pacific	40⅝	40⅞
Caterpillar	43⅞	43⅞
Celanese	72⅞	73⅞
Central Soya	15⅛	15⅞
Chase Manhat	46⅞	46⅞
Chem Bank NY	46⅞	46½
Chrysler	26⅞	27⅛
Citicorp	35⅞	35⅞
Clark Equip	36⅞	35⅞
Coca Cola	55⅞	55⅞
Colgate	23⅞	23⅞
CBS	68⅞	68½
Columbia Gas	33⅞	33⅞
Combustion Eng	34⅞	34⅞
Comwlth Edison	28⅞	29
Cons Edison	24⅞	24⅞
Cons Foods	50	49⅞
Cons Power	16⅞	16½
Continental Grp	52⅞	52
Control Data	43⅞	44½
Corning Glass	68⅞	68⅞
CPC Intnl	41⅛	40⅞
Crane	28⅞	28⅞
Crocker Int	30½	30
Crown Zeller	36⅞	36½
Dart & Kraft	67	68⅞
Deere	37⅞	37⅞
Delta Air	40⅞	41⅞
Detroit Edison	15⅞	15⅞
Disney	48⅞	49
Dow Chemical	32	31⅞
Dresser Ind	18⅞	18⅞
Duke Power	25⅞	25⅞
Du Pont	53⅞	53⅞
Eastern Air	5⅞	5⅞
Eastman Kodak	74¼	73⅞
Eaton Corp	51⅞	51
El Paso Nat Gas	23½	23½
Esmark	62⅞	63⅞
Evans P. D.	11	11⅞
Exxon Corp	38	37⅞
Fed Dept Stores	58½	58⅞
Firestone	23½	23⅞
Fst Chicago	24½	24⅞

	Nov 23	Nov 22
Fst Intrst Bncp	43⅞	43¾
Fst Penn Corp	8⅝	8⅝
Ford	66⅞	66⅞
GAF Corp	19⅞	19⅞
GTE Corp	46⅞	46⅞
Gen Dynamics	63½	60½
Gen Electric	56⅞	56
Gen Foods	51⅞	51⅞
Gen Mills	53⅞	53⅞
Gen Motors	76½	77
Gen Pub Util NY	7½	7½
Gen Tire	36⅞	35
Genesco	7⅞	7⅞
Georgia Pacific	25	25⅞
Getty Oil	73⅞	73⅞
Gillette	48⅞	48
Goodrich	30	32⅞
Goodyear	33⅞	33⅞
Gould Inc	32	32⅞
Grace	48⅞	48⅞
Gt Atlntc & Pacific	11½	11⅞
Greyhound	23⅞	22⅞
Grumman Corp	30	30
Gulf Oil	43⅞	43⅞
Gulf & West	27½	28
Heinz H. J.	34⅞	33⅞
Hercules	37⅞	36½
Honeywell	133⅞	134⅞
IC Inds	44½	44½
Ingersoll	49⅞	50
Inland Steel	29	28½
IBM	120⅞	121
Int Harvester	13⅞	13⅞
INCO	14⅞	13⅞
Int Paper	56⅞	56⅞
Int Tel Tel	43⅞	43
Irving Bank	51⅞	51⅞
Jewel Co	48⅞	48⅞
Jim Walter	37⅞	37⅞
Johnson & John	42⅞	42
Kaiser Alumin	18⅞	18⅞
Kerr McGee	30	29⅞
Kimberly Clark	97	97½
K Mart	35⅞	35⅞
Kroger	36⅞	36½
L.T.V. Corp	18⅞	18⅞
Litton	66⅞	66⅞
Lockheed	41¼	40⅞
Lucky Stores	19	19
Manuf Hanover	38	38½
Manville Cp	16⅞	16½
Mapco	23⅞	23⅞
Marine Midland	23⅞	24⅞
Martin Marietta	38	37⅞
McDonnell	58⅞	58⅞
Mead	36⅞	36⅞
Merck	97⅞	98⅞
Minnesota Mng	85⅞	87⅞
Mobil Oil	28⅞	27⅞
Monsanto	103⅞	104
Morgan J. P.	71	71½
Motorola	128	128⅞
NCR Corp	134⅞	135⅞
NL Industries	15	15⅞
Nabisco	43⅞	43
Nat Distillers	24½	24½
Nat Med Ent	21⅞	20⅞
Norfolk South	63⅞	65½
NW Bancorp	35	35½
Occidental Pet	25⅞	24⅞
Ogden	31⅞	32
Olin Corp	31⅞	30
Owens-Illinois	35⅞	34⅞
Pacific Gas Elec	16⅞	16⅞
Pan Am	6⅞	6⅞
Penney J. C.	60⅞	61
Pennzoil	32½	32⅞
Pepsico	38	38⅞
Pfizer	38	38⅞
Phelps Dodge	25⅞	25⅞
Philip Morris	68⅞	69⅞
Phillips Petrol	33⅞	33
Polaroid	36	35⅞
PPG Ind	36⅞	36⅞

	Nov 23	Nov 22
Procter Gamble	57⅞	57⅞
Pub Ser El & Gas	28⅞	28½
Raytheon	45⅞	45⅞
RCA Corp	36	35⅞
Republic Steel	27⅞	27
Reynolds Ind	58⅞	58⅞
Reynolds Metal	37⅞	37⅞
Rockwell Int	32⅞	32
Royal Dutch	44⅞	45
Safeways	27	27⅞
St Regis Paper	35½	35½
Santa Fe Ind	33⅞	32⅞
SCM	36⅞	35⅞
Schlumberger	49⅞	48⅞
Scott Paper	31⅞	31⅞
Seagram	38⅞	38⅞
Sears Roebuck	41⅞	42⅞
Shell Oil	43	43⅞
Shell Trans	33½	33½
Signal Co	32⅞	32⅞
Singer	26⅞	26⅞
Smithkline Beck	59½	59
Sony	14⅞	14⅞
Sth Cal Edison	41½	41½
Southern Pacific	43⅞	42½
Sperry Corp	43⅞	44⅞
Std Oil California	35	34⅞
Std Oil Indiana	48⅞	47⅞
Std Oil Ohio	46⅞	45⅞
Sterling Drug	27	27⅞
Stevens J. P.	20½	20
Sun Comp	44	43⅞
Teledyne	163⅞	165⅞
Tenneco	39	39⅞
Texaco	36	36
Texas East Corp	57⅞	57½
Texas Inst	134⅞	132⅞
Texas Utilities	27	27½
Textron	33⅞	34
TWA	34	34⅞
Travelers Corp	32⅞	32⅞
TRW Inc	76⅞	76⅞
UAL Inc	33⅞	33½
Union Carbide	67½	67½
Union Oil Calif	29	29
Un Pacific Corp	50	50⅞
Uniroyal	17⅞	16⅞
United Brands	17⅞	18⅞
US Industries	16⅞	16⅞
US Steel	28⅞	29
Utd Technol	69⅞	69⅞
Wachovia	45⅞	45½
Warner Comms	27⅞	26⅞
Warner Lambert	28⅞	29⅞
Wells Fargo	38⅞	37
Westinghse Elec	53⅞	53⅞
Weyerhauser	36⅞	37
Whirlpool	48⅞	49⅞
Woolworth	35⅞	35⅞
Xerox Corp	48½	47⅞
Zenith	33⅞	33⅞

Canadian Prices

	Nov 23	Nov 22
Abitibi	24	28
Alcan Alumin	48	47½
Algoma Steel	25⅞	26⅞
Bell Telephone	31⅞	31⅞
Comineo	57½	58⅞
Cons Bathurst	23⅞	23⅞
Gulf Oil	18⅞	18½
Hawker/Sid Can	14⅞	14½
Hudson Bay Min	24⅞	24⅞
Imasco	34⅞	34⅞
Imperial Oil	38⅞	38⅞
Int Pipe	32⅞	32⅞
Mass.-Fergsn	6⅞	6⅞
Royal Trustco	27½	27½
Seagram	47⅞	48⅞
Steel Co	28½	28⅞
Thomson N 'A'	30⅞	30⅞
Walker Hiram	29⅞	29⅞
WCT	15	15

e Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

APPOINTMENTS

Board changes at Unilever

Unilever: Mr F. A. Maljers is to succeed Mr H. F. van den Hoven as chairman of Unilever NV and as a vice-chairman of Unilever PLC from next May. Mr M. R. Angus, the Unilever director with special responsibility for North America, is to be a vice-chairman of Unilever PLC and a member of the three-man chief executive. At the annual meeting next May, Mr M. Tabaksblat, chairman of Lever Sunlight BV in The Netherlands, will be nominated as a director of both parent companies. Mr J. D. Keir, a joint secretary of Unilever PLC and Unilever NV will retire next May and be replaced by Mr M. D. Snoxall, at present head of legal services, Unilever PLC.

United Rum Merchants: Mr P. M. Raeburn is now commercial director. He continues as commercial director of URN (International).

Civil Aviation Authority: Mr J. C. Chaplin has been made a full-time member of the Authority for five years.

Steetley: Mr John Kerridge, chief executive of Fisons, has joined the board as a non-executive director.



Mr F. A. Maljers: appointed from next May

BAT Industries: Mr John Worlidge, an executive director of BAT Industries and deputy chariman of the Wiggins Teape Group will become vice-chairman of Wiggins Teape on January 1, in preparation for the retirement of Mr Patrick Best next October. Mr Worlidge remains chairman of Mardon Packaging International and a director of British-American Tobacco. Mr Alex Halliday, chief executive - UK operations of Wiggins Teape, will be appointed managing director of Mardon Packaging International on January 1, succeeding Mr Worlidge who continues as chairman. Mr Halliday remains on Wiggins Teape board as a non-executive director. Mr John Berry will replace Mr Halliday as chief executive - UK operations of Wiggins Teape. Mr Berry will also join the board of Wiggins Teape (UK).

Law Report November 25 1983 House of Lords

Any building alteration is zero-rated for VAT

Customs and Excise Commissioners v Viva Gas Appliances Ltd

Before Lord Diplock, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Scarman and Lord Bridge of Harwich

[Speeches delivered November 24]

The words "alteration . . . of any building" within the meaning of item 2, group 8 of Schedule 4 to the Finance Act 1972 should not be construed as excluding any work upon the fabric of the building except that which was so slight or trivial as to attract the application of the *de minimis* rule.

The House of Lords so held, allowing an appeal by the taxpayer company, Viva Gas Appliances Ltd, from a decision of the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Waller, Lord Justice Dunn and Lord Justice Slade) on March 22, 1983 (*The Times*, March 23, 1983) who allowed an appeal by the Customs and Excise Commissioners from a judgment of Mr Justice Forbes dated June 16, 1982 who upheld a decision dated November 3, 1981, of a value-added tax tribunal in Manchester that certain supplies by the taxpayer during the period October 1, 1979 to June 30, 1980, comprising in each case, the supply of a domestic gas fire and the supply of services made in the course of installing the fire into a building were zero-rated for value-added tax.

Mr Philip Lawton, QC and Mr Stephen Allcock for the taxpayer, Mr Simon D. Brown and Mr Andrew Collins for the Customs and Excise Commissioners.

LORD DIPLOCK said that the appeal provided the second occasion within two years on which their Lordships had had to consider the meaning of some ordinary English words used in Schedule 4 of the Finance Act 1972 to describe services, the supply of which were zero-rated under section 12 of the Act.

The words in question were in the description of item 2 of group 8 of the Schedule which bore the heading "Construction of Buildings etc". Item 2 read: "The supply, in the course of the construction, alteration or demolition of any building or of any civil engineering work, of any services other than the services of an architect, surveyor or any person acting as consultant or in a supervisory capacity."

In *ACT Construction Ltd v Customs and Excise Commissioners* (*The Times* December 4, 1981; [1981] 1WLR 1543) Lord Roskill approved the interpretation put upon the words by Mr Justice Neill in *Customs and Excise Commissioners v Morrison, Dunbar* ([1979] STC 406) where he said he said:

"In dealing with a case in which item 2 of group 8 is said to apply, I consider that one should first look to see whether the supply of the services in question is a supply in the course of the construction, alteration or demolition of a building. Each of these words is important and should be given its proper wieght.

"The word 'alteration', it is to be noted, is found between 'construction' and 'demolition' and it follows, in my view, that the alteration to which item 2 applies is an alteration of the building and therefore one which involves some structural alteration . . ."

The work undertaken by the taxpayer company in the instant case which it claimed was entitled to be zero-rated, consisted of the installation of gas fires in substitution for coal-burning fireplaces in old houses.

The value-added tax tribunal described the general nature of the work as falling into a number of categories.

First, there were cases in which a gas appliance was fitted into a flue which already existed and which had been used or was designed to be used for the consumption of solid fuel.

In such cases it would be necessary to break out the fireclay fireback, which had been built into the fireplace in such a way as to become an intergral part of it and had no possibility of being removed otherwise than by its total demolition. Clearly some degree of structural work or demolition was involved.

The tribunal considered that the degree of alteration was sufficient to be regarded as an alteration of the building which was the house.

The second group of operations was the fixing of a fire in front of such an opening. That involved the connecting of the fire to the end of a pipe outlet newly connected to the meter or pre-existing.

Behind the fire was a plate held to the wall by adhesive tape or alternatively there might be a fire surround in which the necessary opening had been cut, and into either of which the spigot of the fire flue was inserted. Such a fire surround would be held into the wall by up to six fixing plates.

The tribunal did not consider that either of those operations of itself involved an adequate degree of alteration to a building to satisfy the test, but did consider that it was nevertheless inseparable from the first operation described in cases to which that operation applied.

Third in some cases of those installations gas supplies had to be brought by running pipes through walls and under floors from the position of the meter.

The length of the pipe could not be precisely established but the tribunal held that provided it was substantial in length and not merely a minimal extension of an exisiting supply it would satisfy the criteria.

The Customs and Excise Commissioners appealed to the High Court from that decision of the tribunal under section 13 of the Tribunals and Inquiries Act 1971 and Order 55 of the Rules of the Supreme Court. Such an appeal lay only upon a point of law and Order 55, rule 2 required the grounds of appeal to be stated in the originating motion by which the appeal was brought.

The identification of the error of law alleged to have been made by the tribunal could hardly have been expressed in terms more Delphic than those appearing in the originating summons. It said:

"The tribunal erred in law in holding (1) That the works undertaken in the course of the installation of the gas fires amounted to a supply of service in the course of an alteration to the buildings into which the said fires had been installed. (2) That the said supplies were chargeable to tax at the zero rate."

That left to counsel for the commissioners untrammelled scope to argue in favour of whatever glosses he thought fit to place upon the statutory words that fell to be construed.

From the judgment of Mr Justice Forbes who heard the appeal, it appeared that the preferred glosses, all three of which were cumulative were that the alteration of the structure or fabric of the building must (1) be "substantial in relation to the building as a whole" (2) "have some degree of permanence" and (3) be "irreversible". However, the two latter glosses were not persisted in by the commissioners in the Court of Appeal or before their Lordship's House.

Mr Justice Forbes rejected all three glosses and it was instructive to see from his judgment how the argument addressed to him in favour of gloss (1), which alone concerned their Lordships, was developed. It provided an object lesson in the misuse of judicial statements made in contexts which were dissimilar.

The adjective "structural" as qualifying the noun "alteration" did not itself appear at all in the statutory words to be construed. The noun appeared and might equally well have been expressed by some such words as "alteration to the fabric" of the building.

The expression "structural alteration" had however, appeared in an earlier statute passed for a wholly different purpose, the Leasehold Reform Act 1967, where the context in which the expression was to be found was "any improvement made (to a dwelling house held on a long lease) by the execution of works amounting to structural alteration, extension or addition."

In *Pearlman v Keepers and Governors of Harrow School* ([1979] QB 56) Lord Justice Geoffrey Lane expressed the opinion that in the context of that Act, the word "structural" meant "something which involves the fabric of the house as opposed to the provision merely of a piece of equipment".

In fact the relevant alteration to the fabric of the house in that case, which consisted of the installation of a complete new central heating system, involved major alterations to the walls, floors and ceilings of the house, so little importance could be attached, even in the context of the 1967 Act to the Lord Justice's inclusion of the word "substantial" in his subsequent remark "... if there is any substantial alteration, extension or addition to the fabric of the house . . .".

Pearlman's case was cited in *Customs and Excise Commissioners v Smitmit Design Centre Ltd* ([1982] STC 529) where Mr Justice Glidewell accepted that the alteration must affect the structure of the building to some material extent – by which his Lordship took it he meant that the effect upon the structure must not be so slight or trivial that the court was obliged to ignore its very existence under the rule of law expressed in the Latin maxim *de mininis non curat lex*.

Mr Justice Glidewell however, went on to lay down a further criterion that "the alteration must be substantial in relation to the building as a whole". He gave no reason for that proposition, which was clearly intended to lay down a test for qualifying for zero-rating under item 2 that was more difficult to satisfy than that which the *de minimis* rule itself imported.

Mr Justice Forbes in the present case was unable to find any warrant for the imposition of that second and more severe criterion in the statutory words of item 2. Nor could his Lordship.

If the alteration of the fabric of the building satisfied the *de minimis* rule there could be no reason why it should not fall within the statutory description "alteration . . . of any building" whether the extent to which it fell outside that rule be great or small.

Mr Justice Forbes upheld the tribunal's decision and the commissioners appealed to the Court of Appeal who unanimously allowed the appeal. After noting that in item 2 the phrase "of the building" was not followed by any words such as "or any part or parts thereof", the *ratio decidendi* of the court was epitomised in the following two sentences:

"The conjunction of the words 'construction' of a building, 'demolition' of a building and 'alteration' of a building indicates that the kind of alteration must not only be structural but not unlike construction or demolition and therefore should be substantial, i.e. in relation to a building be more than a minimal alteration of the building. If the work is to qualify as an 'alteration' it must be sufficiently substantial in relation to the relevant building as a whole that it can properly be described as an alteration of the building."

The second of those sentences would appear at first sight to import an element of proportionality between the magnitude of the piece of work carried out on its fabric that was relied upon as an "alteration" of the building and the size of the building on whose fabric that work had been done. But such intention was promptly disavowed.

The judgment went on: "We do not suggest that a piece of work, which would be alteration of a small building would not also be alteration of a large building. It is the nature and substance of the work which indicates whether or not it would amount to alteration of a building."

His Lordship could not follow the logic of the reasoning contained in those passages from the Court of Appeal's judgment. The maxim *noscitur a sociis* might be a useful aid to statutory interpretation, but the contexts in which it was applicable were limited.

In the case of a word which was capable of bearing various shades of meaning, the fact that it was included in a list of words of greater precision in which some common characteristic could be discerned might enable one to say that the chameleon word took its colour from those other words and of its possible meanings bore that which shared the characteristic that was common to the others.

But here the *socii* relied upon by the Court of Appeal, "construction" and "demolition" had no common colour for "alteration", which was sandwiched between them, to take. "Demolition" so far from sharing a common characteristic with "construction" was its antithesis.

Once what constituted the relevant building had been identified, "construction", as the Court of Appeal had earlier pointed out, in the absence of any reference to "part of a building" meant erecting the building as a whole and "demolition" meant destroying it as a whole, so "alteration" was left to cover all works to the fabric of the building which fell short of complete erection or complete demolition.

There could be no ground on which the meaning of the ordinary English word "alteration" qualified by the adjectival phrase "of any building" should be construed as excluding any work upon the fabric of the building except that which was so slight or trivial as to attract the application of the *de minimis* rule.

It was evident from the decision of the tribunal that they had the *de minimis* rule firmly in their minds and reached the conclusion that it did not apply to the services supplied by the taxpayer company. It was therefore not open to the High Court to hold that the tribunal had erred in point of law.

Lord Fraser, Lord Scarman and Lord Bridge agreed.

Solicitors: Speechly Bircham for Simpson & Ashworth, Accrington; Solicitor for Customs and Excise.

Company owners can steal from it

Attorney General's Reference (No 2 of 1982)

Before Lord Justice Watkins and Lord Justice Kerr

[Opinion delivered November 24]

A person in total control of a limited liability company, by reason of his shareholding and directorship, or two or more such persons acting in concert, were capable in law of stealing the property of the company.

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) so held in giving its opinion upon a reference by the Attorney General under section 36 of the Criminal Law Act 1972, the respondents having been acquitted of theft on a direction to the jury by Judge Blaker at Winchester Crown Court in June 1982.

Section 2(1) of the Theft Act 1968 provides: "A person's appropriation of property belonging to another is not to be regarded as dishonest – (a) if he appropriates the property in the belief that he would have the other's consent if the other knew of the appropriation and the circumstances of it . . .".

Mr Alan Rawley, QC and Mr Philip Mott for the Attorney General; Mr John Gorman, QC and Mr Andrew Baillie for the respondents.

LORD JUSTICE KERR, giving the opinion of the court, said that the counts of theft were specimen counts alleging the appropriation by the respondents for their own private purposes of funds of various companies of which they were the sole shareholders and directors. The total amounts involved ran into millions. It was common ground that each acted with the consent of the other.

It was submitted on their behalf that since they were the sole owners of the company and, through their shareholding, the sole owners of all its property, they could not, in effect, be charged with stealing from themselves. In particular, it was submitted that there was no issue to go to the jury on the ingredient of dishonesty, as the respondents were the sole will and directing mind of the company, so that the company was therefore bound to consent to all to which they themselves consented.

Moreover, it was said that the respondents were bound to succeed under section 2(1)(b) of the Theft Act 1968 since consent to the appropriations necessarily involved consent by the company for the purposes of that provision.

The respondents further relied on the wide "objects" clauses of the memoranda of association of the various companies and submitted that their acts were *intra vires* those objects. *Tesco Supermarket Ltd v Natrass* ([1972] AC 153) merely illustrated that in such situations the respondents "are" the company in the sense that any offences committed by them in relation to the affairs of the company would be capable of being treated as offences committed by the company itself. The decision had no bearing on offences committed against the company.

Similarly, neither *Salomon v Salomon* ([1897] AC 22) nor *Multinational Gas & Petrochemical Co v Multinational Gas and Petrochemical Services Ltd* ([1983] 3 WLR 492), assisted the respondents, as neither was concerned with allegations that the shareholders and directors had acted illegally or dishonestly in relation to the company.

Where that was alleged the position was different: see *Belmont Finance Corporation Ltd v Williams Furniture Ltd (No 1)* ([1979] Ch 250, 261) *per* Lord Justice Buckley: "... the directors of the ... company must then have known that the transaction was an illegal transaction. But in my view such knowledge should not be imputed to the company, for the essence of the arrangement was to deprive the company improperly of a large part of its assets.

"As I have said, the company was a victim of the conspiracy. I think it would be irrational to treat the directors, who were allegedly parties to the conspiracy, notionally as having transmitted this knowledge to the company . . .".

There was no reason in the court's view why the position in the criminal law should be any different.

There was no substance in the submission that section 2(1)(b) of the 1968 Act would preclude a jury from concluding, as a matter of law, that the respondents had acted dishonestly. A defendant's "belief that he would have the other's consent" must be an honest belief in a true consent, honestly obtained; see *per* Lord Justice Megaw in *R v Lawrence* ([1971] 1 QB 373, 377).

It must follow that unless the respondents had an honest belief that they were entitled to appropriate the company's funds, they could not honestly believe that the company had truly consented to the appropriations.

Moreover, the respondents asserted an identity for all purposes between themselves and the company. How then could the company be regarded as "the other" for the purposes of section 2(1)(b)? There was no difficulty in leaving to the jury the issues concerning dishonesty.

The question of the powers of the company might be of evidential relevance to but not determinative of the issue as to the defendant's honesty or dishonesty.

Solicitors: Director of Public Prosecutions; Lamport Bassitt & Hiscock, Southampton.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	9%
BCCI	9%
Citibank Savings	†10¼%
Consolidated Crds	9%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	*9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%

† Mortgage Base Rate.
* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 5¾%: £10,000 up to £50,000, 6¼%: £50,000 and over, 7¼%.

PUTTING A CLEAR CONSCIENCE BEFORE MEDALS IN LOS ANGELES

Gold calls for random drugs tests on all Britons of Olympic potential

By David Miller

Arthur Gold, the president of the European Athletic Union and chairman of the Sports Council drugs abuse advisory group, yesterday called for voluntary action by all 26 Olympic sports in Britain to eliminate the possible involvement of any British competitor in Los Angeles who has resorted to drugs.

At the CCPR annual conference at Bournemouth, it as suggested that every sport should submit their international and near international competitors to random testing, without warning of time, place, or person, and that the Sports Council would underwrite the cost of this expensive project. Mr Gold further suggested that it would be appropriate if any competitor who refused voluntary testing were as a consequence not selected for the Games.

The British Olympic Association has already suggested to the International Olympic Committee a similar procedure: that voluntary testing should be written into the eligibility clause of rule 26. It was agreed at yesterday's conference that such a move within Britain might well for the moment reduce the medal prospects compared with other countries.

Mike Winch, the international shot putter, research scientist and treasurer of the International Athletes Club, made an impassioned plea for more severe action by the authorities on drugs, the use of which, he claimed, was accelerating and becoming increasingly dangerous.

He alleges that many more substances are in use than 10 years ago, including the hormone growth hormone, Somatropin, which can produce, in excessive doses, the phenomenon of acro megali, the unnatural enlargement of bones such as the jaw. Winch is adamant that the authorities could have acted six years ago to prevent the now widespread use of the male hormone, Testosterone, which has to a great extent replaced steroids and is more



Gold: voluntary action needed.

difficult to detect because of its natural instance in both men and women. He further alleged that those taking drugs are now able to "blind" the scientists by the taking of secondary substances which will counterbalance the presence of what is illegal under test conditions.

Winch stated that because drug takers in some countries were several years ahead of the drugs testers, the ability to win medals was now to some extent dominated by the quality of medical back up which those countries could give.

This view was corroborated by Wally Holland, a weightlifter, who said that he had been told by an Eastern European official that the British competitors would always be in more danger if they took drugs, because they would be doing it individially and without guidance, possibly not even knowing exactly what they were taking, where as Eastern Europeans were "carefully flushed out" to eliminate evidence before they competed.

Robert Stinson, who put through *proposals for British athletics at the recent* European meeting in Madrid, and will repeat them in the agenda for nexr month's International Amateur Athletic Federation meeting in Manila, says that he believes the Eastern Europeans are in a mood to accept more severe legislation if only there would be stronger action in America, where up to now there has been no drug taking at all.

Arthur Gold said that the sports ministers of Western Europe had recommended that Government grant aid should be withheld from any sport which refused the testing, while Charles Palmer, the chairman of the BOA, speaking on behalf of judo, said that an effective life ban was necessary for competitors found positive, never mind how much it might jeopardise subsequent professional earnings.

In a subsequent debate on the prospects for cable television starting next year, both Bill Cotton, managing director of BBC development services and John Bromley, of London Weekend Television, cast doubt on the ability of cable TV to produce 54 hours a week of exclusive sports television of a quality sufficient to persuade an audience of under half a million in the first year to pay, and even more the inclination of sponsors to take a serious interest.

Barrie Gill of Cable Sports and Leisure and Bob Kennedy of Screen Sport had put a strong case for cable TV being able to expand on the necessary limited coverage at present of the four broadcasting channels -

Kennedy made the valid point that cable TV would be screened "for sports' sake, not television's sake". Cotton foresaw substantial difficulties in eight to ten years time when cable would possibly have a sufficient audience to make a realistic challenge financially for the events at present "protected" for the public broadcasters, such as the FA Cup Final and Wimbledon tennis.

FOOTBALL

Germans praise their 'guests'

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

England's three Uefa Cup representatives may have been left out in the cold on Wednesday night but the police warmed to the behaviour of their supporters for a change. None more so than in West Germany, where a spokesman described Tottenham Hotspur's followers as "exemplary, the sort of guests we would always like to have here".

Tottenham, who were fined £8,000 after the ugly brawls at Feyenoord at the beginning of the month, will be cheered by his opinion. Yet the Germans, unlike the Dutch, it would seem, were prepared as efficiently as usual. To watch over some 400 visiting supporters, they had 500 Munich policemen on duty.

Crowd trouble did occur at the ground of Nottingham Forest, whose tie against Celtic was held up when spectators spilled on to the pitch. But Forest, fearing that they might suffer the same excessive punishment that was imposed on Tottenham, were quick to give a full explanation to the Uefa observer before he flew home to Finland yesterday.

The club's statement claimed that the incident started when a Celtic supporter, suffering from a gashed head after a fall, was brought by his friends to the front of a packed stand. As an emergency gate was opened to allow the youth to be treated, so a Celtic attack caused their supporters to surge down the terraces towards the gap.

Some spectators, after sustaining twisted ankles and bruises, were taken on stretchers to safety but Ken Smales, Forest's secretary, insisted there were "no major casualties". He added that there was no evidence to suggest that anybody needed mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, as had been reported, or that a crash barrier had collapsed. After inspecting the ground yesterday the police confirmed that there was no structural damage.

The most serious incident during the first legs of the third round occurred in Leans. A slow-motion television replay showed that fire crackers and small stones were thrown at Muneron, Anderlecht's goalkeeper. He gathered a small collection of missiles, including bottles, and took them back to the dressing room in case UEFA required some evidence.

The match ended with a bizarre twist. Anderlecht were leading 1-0 with two minutes left when Munaron bent to collect Brylle's back pass. A stone, hurled from the crowd, caused the ball to veer gently off course and bounce off Munaron's left foot into the net.

When the Anderlecht players and supporters protested vehemently, the referee was forced to deal with the reactions on the pitch, and the riot police to deal with those off it. The Belgians should still claim a place in the quarter final draw on December 9.

By then England may have lost all three of their representatives. Although Tottenham, Forest and Watford are all capable of rising to the big occasion, there are flaws in each of the cases they will present in a fortnight. The men who exposed them were all managers and they should know.

Brian Clough admitted that his Forest side were held to a goalless draw at home by "a better team". He would be touching the heights of optimism if he expects the difference in ability to be less emphatic in the roaring fires of Celtic Park.

The same night Watford will step into a refrigerator in Prague and Graham Taylor conceded once again that his young players were too inexperienced to cope with Sparta, 3-2 winners at Vicarage Road.

Although Keith Burkinshaw, Tottenham's manager, believed his team are "in with a chance" after their 1-0 defeat, Udo Lattek manager of Bayern, pointed out: "they have to come at us and we are renowned for our counter attacks." Now that there are two Rummeniggesin the German club's attack, *the threat is doubled*. Karl-Heinz sounded typically too accurate for comfort when he described the goal of Michael, his brother, as "worth its weight in gold".

● Oxford United have increased prices for the visit of Manchester United to the Manor Ground in the fourth round of the Milk Cup next Wednesday, and expect record receipts of £50,000.



A case for the French riot police as Anderlecht supporters react violently to the late equalizer by Lens.

BOXING: COUNTDOWN TO WBC HEAVYWEIGHT CONTEST

Holmes belittles Frazier's chances

Las Vegas, (AP) – Larry Holmes has told Marvis Frazier that he will deliver his World Boxing Council heavyweight title belt to Frazier's home if he loses to him tonight. But Holmes also told Frazier at a news conference: "I wouldn't want it (the belt) if I were you. The WBC doesn't recognize you."

This was a dig at the WBC, which has refused to sanction the scheduled 12-round bout at Caesars Palace as a title contest because Frazier is not a top 10-ranked contender. However, if Holmes loses, the title would be declared vacant. "I will, if Marvis Frazier beats me, consider Marvis Frazier as champion," Holmes, said.

Murad Muhammad, who, with Bob Andreoli, is promoting the bout denied a rumour that Jose Sulaiman, the WBC president, had told him that if the promoter Don King was given an option for a Frazier bout, tonight's contest fight would be sanctioned. But, Muhammad, added: "I strongly believe that if Don King had the rights to this fight, it would be recognized as a championship."

"I've done all my homework," Frazier, said. He is managed and trained by his father, Joe, the former heavyweight champion. The elder Frazier used Holmes as a sparring partner when he was preparing for his second bout against Muhammad Ali in 1974. "Every time I got the report card I get all A's," Marvis said. Referring to criticism that he is not ready for a boxer of Holmes's experience. "I'm ready."

"I want to say to Marvis Frazier I'm ready too," Holmes. "I didn't get to where I'm at without being ready. I'm not taking him lightly." However, Holmes feels Frazier is not ready for him.

"There's nothing you can do to me that hasn't been done," Holmes told Frazier. "I've been knocked down, been hit low. But there are a lot of things I can do to you that you've never had done before. You're going to see a lot of things coming at you, you never saw coming at your before." The bout is scheduled to start at two o'clock in the morning.

● The undisputed world light-heavyweight champion, Michael Spink, of the United States, defends his title for the first time against Oscar Rivandeneyra of Peru at Vancouver today. In his first bout since he captured the title, the undefeated Spink meets a boxer who also has a perfect record.

The 27-year-old champion took the title from his compatriot Dwight Braxton by a unanimous decision over 15 rounds in Atlantic City, New Jersey in March, and has won all his 23 bouts since turning professional, 16 by knockout.

● Don Curry will defend his World Boxing Association welterweight title against fellow American, Marlow Starling, in Hartford on February 4, the promoter Bob Arum said.



Collectors of sporting memorabilia will be boxing clever to win this glittering belt that belonged to Jackie Paterson, Scotland's legendary world flyweight champion, when it comes under the hammer in Christie's sale at Maybole, Ayrshire today (Srikumar Sen writes). It was presented to Paterson by *Ring* magazine when the little Scot lifted the world title by knocking out Peter Kane in 61 seconds in Glasgow in 1943.

The red, white and blue silk belt with polished bronze shields decorated with eagle surmounts is expected to sell for between £600 and £1,000. The belt has changed hands several times in the last decade and has been put up for sale by a Glasgow man.

Paterson, who held five major titles, retired from boxing in 1951, and emigrated to South Africa. He died at the age of 46 – murdered in a bottle fight at a party in Johannesbury in 1966.

Photograph: Ian Stewart

Council prepare to take over at Derby

Derby County could become England's first council-controlled football club. That was the indication given by Mick Walker, leader of Derby City Council, following yesterday's 90 minutes meeting with officials of the club, which is facing financial extinction.

Walker emerged from the meeting to say: "It appears to the City Council that conventional forms of loan or gurantee may not be attainable. But further exploratory meeting will be arranged by the City Council with the Derbyshire County Council and any other interested Local Authorities to examine what might be possible.

"In the opinion of City Council, any participating authorities would need to have considerable involvement in the financial management of the club's affairs, if some formula for assistance can be worked out."

● *Don Revie*, criticized for his desertion of the England manager's job five years ago, has admitted: "I did it totally wrong". In an interview with BBC Radio Sport, the former Leeds manager, back in Britain after his spell in the Middle East, said he would like to get gack into English soccer.

He said of the events of 1978: "I left England when I shouldn't have done. There were two World Cup matches to go and I did it totally wrong. I got a lot of bad press and I think I deserved it at that time."

● Charlton Athletics directors have been given more time to save the club, after yesterday's winding up order brought by former Chairman Michael Gliksten was withdrawn. But a spokesman for Glikstén's company, Adelong Ltd, denied that proceedings to recover nearly £600,000 have been dropped. The case will eventually be heard in High Court, probably not before March.

The Second division club hopes a consortium will step in to buy the Valley groud from Gliksten. Adelong's spokesman said: "We know nothing about this but we are prepared to negotiate."

● Ron Saunders, Birmingham City's manager, who warned last week that English football is in danger of being dominated by a handful of rich clubs, has been promised cash for team strengthening.

The midlands club yesterday reported a loss for the last financial year of nearly £90,000, which left them with accumulated debts of £1.86 million – but also confirmed a plan to issue shares to supporters in order to raise money for improving the team and ground.

● Jeremy Charles, Swansea City's 24-year-old midfield player is considering signing for Portsmouth. The fee – £100.000 – would ease Swansea's debt of £1.5million. Portsmouth were hoping to include Charles against Oldham on Saturday, but he asked for more time to think about the move.

● Brentford have signed Andy Rollings, the former Swindon, Brighton and Portsmouth centre half on a month's trial. He is in their squad for Saturday's home game with Bradford City.

Brentford will now stage their Third division game against Wimbledon at Griffin Park on Christmas Eve (kick off 3 pm). The game, originally arranged for Boxing Day, was brought forward to Christmas Day following protests from supporters, both clubs agreed to move the match back a day.

● Luton Town's directors have named their price for selling out to the local businessmen who want to keep the club in the town. In their first meeting with the consortium, the directors – who want the club to move to Milton Keynes – asked £2¼ million for their personal shares, which cost them £80,000.

Dagless expected to find right formula

By Paul Newman

Mike Dagless, a former Blyth Spartans player, has become the Northern League champions' third manager in little more than a year. He replaces John Connolly, who has returned to Gateshead, the Alliance Premier League club, as a player.

Dagless, who left Blyth three years ago, returne as coach last month after a spell at Whitley Bay. He steps into one of the most demanding jobs in non-League football, for Blyth dominate the game in the North-East to such an extent that they are expected not only to win trophies, but to do so in style. Blyth have won the Northern League championship for years in succession, but 12 months ago, Bob Elwell was dismissed as manager because it was felt he had been encouraging "negative football".

Lack of success in the FA Cup since reaching the fifth round six years ago has also hurt the club. This season they lost to Hyde United on their own ground in a fourth qualifying round replay, a disappointment that has been emphasized by Whitby Town's good run in the Cup. Whitby, who are through to the second round after beating Halifax Town, have been Blyth's closest rivals in recent seasons and currently lead the Northern League.

Under Connolly, the former Everton, Birmingham City and Newcastle United winger, Blyth had become hard to beat, but did not score many goals. He resigned his part-time post at the club, saying that he felt unable to devote enough hours to the job.

In other Northern League managerial changes, Billy Bell has left Tow Law Town for Spennymoore United, where he succeeds John Heaviside, and Clive Nattress, the former Darlington and Halifax Town player, has left Bishop Auckland to replace Les Hood at Crook Town.

● Stuart Morgan, the manager of Weymouth, has been appointed assistant to Harry Redknapp, the recently-appointed manager of Bournemouth. Morgan, who took up his new post yesterday, had established a reputation as one of the best managers in the Alliance Premier League, in which Weymouth have finished second, fifth, ninth and second in the last four years.

Morgan, who lives in Bournemouth, had stayed at the club on the understanding that he would leave if given the opportunity of joining a League side. Morgan worked full-time for Weymouth, who are advertising the vacancy and may appoint a part-time replacement.

● *Tommy Meehan, Frickley Athletic's* goalkeeper, will be out of action until early next year, after suffering injuries in a collision as he tried to prevent Altrincham's winning goal in the first round of the FA Cup on Saturday. Meehan, who had not missed a match for more than two seasons, sustained a fractured cheekbone, which will require an operation, two broken bones in a wrist, and a head wound that required seven stitches.

● The Athenian League will wind up at the end of this season, after 71 years. It will end because of an expansion of the Isthmian League. Clubs in both competitions were told the news at meetings last night.

The Isthmian is to become the top of a "pyramid", with automatic relegation to and promotion from four feeder competitions – the Combined Counties, Essex Senior, London Spartan and South Midland leagues. Athenian League clubs with adequate facilities will be invited to join the Isthmian, and the rest will be absorbed into the feeder leagues.

IN BRIEF

Spectators disturb Meo's victim

Tony Meo underlined his improvement over the past year as he knocked John Spencer out of the United Kingdom Snooker championships, sponsored by Coral, at Preston last night.

But afterwards Spencer, who lost 9-5 after starting the session level at 4-4, made an official complaint to the tournament director, Paul Hatherell, about spectators moving about in the large Guild Hall auditorium. "It's diabolical that anyone should be allowed to breeze in and out when a frame is in progress," he said.

Meo now faces the prospect of playing his stable companion, the champion, Steve Davis, in the quarter-finals next Wednesday. But first Davis has to overcome Willie Thorne tomorrow.

Joe Johnson had earlier crushed David Taylor, the ninth seed, 9-3 to become the first man into the quarter-finals. The 31-year-old qualifier from Bradford needed only 71 minutes to convert a 5-3 overnight lead into an easy victory.

RUGBY LEAGUE: Paul Ringer, the former Welsh Rugby Union international who was sent off at Twickenham in 1980, has been banned for four matches by the Rugby League disciplinary committee.

Ringer, now with Cardiff, was dismissed in Sunday's match against Huyton.

Dalgreen banned, page 28

CRICKET: The confused issue of the captaincy of the Pakistan team was clarified when it was announced that Imran Khan would resume as captain the moment he is fit to play again. He will take over from Zaheer Abbas, who captains the side in the Second Test against Australia beginning in Brisbane today. The Pakistan manager, Intikhab Alam, said that Sarfraz Nawaz had been cleared to come to Australia and was expected to arrive in time for the third test in Adelaide next month.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Bolton 78 (McKeever 30), Leicester 82 (Payton 35); Hemel Hempstead 109 (Knuckles 37) Doncaster 97 (Munroe 34).
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Cleveland Cavaliers 107, Washington Bullets 98; Detroit Pistons 116, Indiana Pacers 113; Philadelphia 76ers 113, San Antonio Spurs 105; Milwaukee Bucks 118, Golden State Warriors 94; Denver Nuggets 133, San Diego Clippers 114; New Jersey Nets 110, Phoenix Suns 108; Seattle Super Sonics 106, Los Angeles Lakers 99; Chicago Bulls 128, Utah Jazz 117.

BOXING

ATLANTIC CITY: Light heavyweight: Mike Rossman (US) bt H Sims (US), rsc fifth round.

FOOTBALL

SPANISH CUP: Third round, second leg: Atletico Madrid 3, Portmany 1 (agg 5-3); Rayo Vallecano 0, Real Valladolid 2 (3-6); Osasuna 3, Ar[illegible] (4-3); Real Sociedad 2, Aragon 2 (4-2); Sporting 4, Guimar 0 (6-0); Real Zaragoza 1, Sabadell 1 (2-3); Valencia 2, Huelva 2 (3-2); Salamanca 1, Las Palmas 3 (1-3); Castellon 1, Real Murcia 0 (1-1) Castellon won on penalties; Eibar 1, Malaga 3 (1-5); Barcelona Juniors 2, Real Mallorca 0 (2-0); Real Madrid 2, Real Oviedo 0 (3-0); Real Betis 1, Castilla 0 (2-4).
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Bolton Wanderers 2, Leeds United 0.
Olympic qualifying tournament: Riyadh: Asia-Oceania group three: Saudi Arabia 3, Indonesia 0. S. Arabia finish top of the group.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Montreal Canadiens 4, Hartford Whalers 3; Detroit Red Wings 3, St. Louis Blues 0; Buffalo Sabres 6, New York Rangers 4; New York Islanders 4, Philadelphia Flyers 2; Pittsburgh Penguins 4, New Jersey Devils 1; Ot-Chicago Black Hawks 2, Washington Capitals 2; Toronto Maple Leafs 6, Minnesota North Stars 4; Vancouver Canucks 4, Winnipeg Jets 1; Edmonton Oilers 7, Los Angeles Kings 3.

GOLF

IBUSUKI, Japan: Casio World Open tournament: (Japanese unless stated): 71: P Izumikawa; F Couples (US); S Simpson (US). 72: T Kurihara. 73: T Sugihara; T Irie; N Suzuki; T Nakajima; S Takahashi; G Koch (US). Other non-Japanese: 74: B Langer (WG); G Norman (Aus); R Caldwell (US); R Wadkins (US). 76: L Nelson (US); M Ballesteros (Sp); G Marsh (Aus) 77: S Lyle (GB).

SKATING

MOSCOW: International Tournament: (USSR unless stated): Women's compulsory figures: 1, Y Vodorezova; 2, K Ivanova; 3, A Kondrashova. Compulsory dances: 1, N Bestemianova and A Bukin; 2, O Voloshinskaya and A Svinin; 3, M Klimova and S Ponomarenko. GB placing: 11, D Bliss and D Crofts.

SNOOKER

PRESTON: Coral UK Championship: Second round: J White leads D Taylor 4-3; T Griffiths leads M Hallett 5-2; T Meo bt J Spencer 9-5; J Johnson bt D Taylor 9-3.

BOARDSAILING

BARBADOS: Windsurfer World Championship: Heavyweight group: 1, Van den Zwart (Neth); 2, Brook (WA); 3, Sayre (US). GB results: 7, Noble; 10, Oakley. Lightweight group: 1, Rasmussen (Sweden); 2, Van den Berg (Neth); 3, Scott (US). GB results: 17, Farrant; 25, Carney. Women: 1, Johnson (US); 2, Falk (Swe); 3, Ross (Virgin Islands). GB result: 13, A Noble.

SKIING

BORMIO, Italy: World series: Giant slalom: (all Swiss): 1, M Julien, 2min 10.3sec; 2, J Gaspoz, 2:10.27; 3, P Zurbriggen, 2:10.68.

TENNIS

Canberra: Rio International Challenge Tournament: First round: I Lendl (Cz) bt J Fitzgerald (Aus), 1-6, 6-1, 6-2; J McEnroe (US) bt P McNamee, 6-1, 6-1.
TOULOUSE: Grand Prix tournament: Second round: H Gunthardt (Switz) bt N Saviano (US), 4-6, 6-4, 6-2; J Becka (WG) bt S Simonsson (Swe), 4-6, 6-4, 6-6; J Brown (US) bt S Brawley (US), 6-1, 6-3; P Portes (Fr) bt L Pimek (Cz), 3-6, 6-3, 7-5.
JOHANNESBURG: South African Open: Second round: Panatta (It) bt J Higueras (Sp), 7-6, 6-2; V Gerulaitis (US) bt S Bale (GB) 7-5, 6-3; T Gullikson (US) bt S Meister (US), 7-6, 6-7, 9-7; C Dowdeswell (GB) bt K Curren (SA), 6-4, 7-6; G Vilas (Arg) bt C Kirmayr (Br), 6-0, 6-1; C Motta (Br) bt B Gilbert (US) 7-6, 6-1.

VOLLEYBALL

Camden Superleague: Capital City Spikers 3, Britannia 0.

Boxing

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic: World Junior Amateur Championships: Light-Flyweight: M Herrea (Dom Rep) bt R Ramos (Puerto Rico), pts; Fly: Gonzalez (Cuba) bt T Jacos (Fr), pts; Bantam: J Molina (Puerto Rico) bt F Maniah (Rom), ko; Feather: A Misses (Dom Rep) bt R Leddon (Cuba), pts; Light: A Beltre (Dom Rep) bt J Alvarado (Cuba), pts; Light-Welter: A Espinosa (Cuba) bt M Taylor (U.S.), ko; Welter: M Watkins (U.S.) bt K Vaney (Bul), ko; Light-Middle: U Castillo (Cuba) bt R Ruiz (Puerto Rico), ko; Middle: R Batista (Cuba) bt A Santiago (Puerto Rico), ko; Heavy: A Williams (U.S.) bt D Miclos (Rom), pts.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

UEFA CUP: Third round, first leg: Bayern Munich 1, Tottenham Hotspur 0; Nottingham Forest 0, Celtic 0; Watford 2, Sparta Prague 3; Austria Vienna 2, Inter Milan 2; Lens 1, Anderlecht 1; Radnicki Nis 0, Hajduk Split 2; Sparta Rotterdam 1, Spartak Moscow 1; Sturm Graz 2, Lokomotiv Leipzig 0.
MILK CUP: Third round replay: Oxford United 4, Leeds United 1.
FA CUP: First round replays: Bristol City 4, Corinthian-Casuals 0; Hartlepool United 0, Rotherham United 1; Maidstone United 2, Exeter City 1; Waterlooville 1, Northampton Town 1
ALLIANCE PREMIER ALLIANCE: Boston 0, Gateshead 4.
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Aston Villa 2, Sheffield United 1; Blackburn 2, Sunderland 0. Second division: Huddersfield 3, Manchester City 0; Port Vale 0, Coventry 0.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Cheltenham 2, Witney 1. Midland division: Shepshed Charterhouse 8, Banbury 0; Willenhall v Moor Green, postponed.
BERKS AND BUCKS SENIOR CUP: Newbury 2, Aylesbury 1.
REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: Cambridge University 2, FA XI 0; Old Boys League 1, Arthurian League 2.
UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: South-East group play-off: Surrey 2, Essex 2 (aet: Surrey win 4-3 on penalties).
OTHER MATCH: London University 1, Oxford University 1.
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Brentford 6, Abbs Cross 0; Burlington, Staines 2, Salesians 3; Forest 2, Highgate 0; Hampton 8, Spelthorne 0.
WEMBLEY FIVE-A-SIDE COMPETITION: Semi-finals: Nottingham Forest 1, Aston Villa 4; West Ham United 2, Southampton 3. Final: Aston Villa 0, Southampton 3.

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCHES: Glamorgan Wanderers 32, Cheltenham 11; Swansea 41, South Wales Police 10. Pontypridd v Pontypool cancelled.
TOUR MATCH: French Barbarians 21, Australia 23.
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Allhallows 20, Shebbear 4; Bembridge 44, Pierrepont 14; Bryanston II 18, Clayesmore 8; Caterham 19, St George's, Weybridge 13; Cornwall College 6, Camborne SOM Reserve 4; Gravesend GS 22, Colchester RGS 6; Gunnersbury 13, Sir William Borlese's 15; Haberdashers' Aske's Elstree 16, St Albans 0; King Edward's, Stourbridge 7, Worcester RGS 9; Millfield 24, St Cyre's 10; Old Swinford Hospital 19, Bromsgrove 8; Pangbourne 12, Douai 7; Ryde (IOW) 50, Ryde HS (IOW) 0; Truro 14, Penwith College 7; Warwick 44, Wrekin 19; Welbeck 14, Derbyshire Schools 7; Wellington (Somerset) 4, Kelly College 7, Whitefriars 14, Sir Thomas Rich's 10; Windsor GS 9, King James's, Henley 35.

HOCKEY

LONDON LEAGUE: Cambridge University 0, Hawks 1.
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: London University 1, Essex XI 2.
UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: South-East group play-off: Men: Surrey 2, University College, London 1.

Supporters lose sight of that glorious rainbow

Scotland wakes up to harsh reality

Few tartan-tammied football supporters are likely to be trampled in an early stampede for tickets, when Scotland discover which countries will provide the opposition in the qualifying groups for the World Cup in Mexico.

The draw is to be made on December 7, but on this occasion it *looms like a thundercloud*; not, as in happier years, in the form of a rainbow radiating hopes in the hearts of the most fervent football fans in the world, of global glory for the brawest, biggest-hearted wee soccer country of them all.

The crock of gold at the bottom of the rainbow has still to be found, and once again the nation to whom football is a religion is drenched in gloom, apathetic even about the World Cup, which has been its modern crusade. There is not the fury, the bitter anger directed at the manager, Ally MacLeod, and his players, which followed the humiliation in Argentina in 1978. Nevertheless, the melancholy is deeper, because realization has at last set in that this country has no divine right to football greatness.

Following the dismal failure in the European Championship, which saw Scotland being handed the mythical wooden spoon from a qualifying section in which all three of the away ties were lost and only one victory gained at home, Scotland's standing has seldom been lower.

What dampens the spirit of most is the knowledge that Scotland are now occupying a bottom rung in the world ratings because of the lunatic notion that the country which had given the game of football to the world was still unassailable, still bred the best players and still played in the only possible style.

Lessons had been assimilated since the debacles of Argentina, blueprints evolved and a real attempt made to compete with the cynical but accomplished foreigners, and one of the most famous managers, Jock Stein, was installed to lead a new attack on the premier tournaments, and formulate a hardened and assured style of sophisticated play.

Alas, Scotland's prestige still plummets. The bitter truth has seeped through to the dullest terracing brain: Scotland's international teams are just not good enough. It is all the harder to bear because their clubs, with Aberdeen in the van as European Cup Winners' Cup holders, are now regarded as among the elite of the Continent.

Inevitably, the hunting horns are sounding ominously, and the darts are directed at the manager. This time, however, wiser counsels will prevail than in the recent barbarous days when the head of the man in charge of a defeated Scotland side was invariably chopped at the demand of an affronted press and public





Men with broad shoulders: Dalglish (left) and Miller.

Stein will stay; indeed, must stay. There is no-one available who is anywhere as knowledeable, or as able as the man who enjoyed triumph after triumph with Celtic in the 1960s and 1970s.

Certainly no-one can question his selection of players, for again the unpalatable truth is that, despite exaggerated estimations by pundits in the south, Stein has not at his command anything like the troops of exciting cavaliers who, it is claimed, are to be found in every leading English side.

Apart from Dalglish and Miller, who never fail to try to carry Scotland on their own shoulders, Souness, who is too casual for the taste of many of the Hampden devotees, and Strachan, who is too often laid low by injury, the members of recent international sides have looked little more than good, average club players.

Stein believes it is his job to guide Scotland to total, not merely partial World Cup glory. That is why he is adamant that the old bristling bantam, kick-and-rush assaults which have, it must be admitted, at least won the country her few glorious successes, must be replaced by a more subtle, modern style.

Unfortunately, the new method – attack from the rear – does not seems to appeal to Scottish players, some of whom say they are not suited to it. Not only does it appear to douse traditional fire as exemplified by the Bremners and Laws of yore, but it has led by its over-elaboration to stupefying defensive errors.

Unlike Northern Ireland, who have found fame with their mixture of national pride, old-fashioned raiding and never-say-die spirit, Scottish players do not often form the perfect blend.

Most Scottish supporters want a return to the Irish way for Scotland: but it won't do. Thrilling moves of wild abandon may win a World Cup skirmish; these will never, as Stein rightly points out, win a World Cup war. The real reason for Scotland's present unhappy position is that the happy medium has still to be found.

For instance, after the extravagances, the *braggadocio* of Argentina, Stein had to ensure that Scotland kept a lower profile. Perhaps the serum he has injected has eroded the natural exuberance of any would-be Mackays and Johnstones and Baxters.

Now it appears as though the manager will have to try to brighten, to inspire, if not on MacLeod lines, at least without the sombre preaching of a Covenanting minister.

If he makes this his aim, and if he evolves a style more robust and more rousing, even if still laced with the elegance and patience total football calls for, in the way of Aberdeen, or even of his own Celtic of gorgeous Lisbon memory, enthusiasm should mount.

Hugh Taylor

CRICKET

Botham takes up command of a variegated flock at Somerset

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

The announcement on Wednesday that Surrey were making a change of captain – Geoff Howarth for Roger Knight – was followed yesterday by the news from Somerset that Ian Botham is to take over from Brian Rose. Rose, like Knight, will continue to play and hopes to go into schoolmastering when he gives up cricket, as Knight already has.

Knight is a housemaster at Cranleigh, having taught for several years at Dulwich, his old school. Rose and Millfield (whose headmaster, C. R. M. Atkinson, is also a former captain of Somerset and whose president) are interested in each other.

Botham will be delighted by his appointment. Difficult time though he had when he captained England 12 times between June 1980 and July



Botham: replaces Rose

1981, he has a burning ambition to get the England job back, to prove that he can do it. He could hardly have had it at a more testing time. In 13 months he led England nine times against West Indies and three against Australia. There were no easy pickings.

It was not so much, though, that England's playing record under Botham consisted of no wins as that his own form declined so dramatically. That he should want, one day, to have another crack at it is perfectly understandable. It may or may not happen. The chances are that the selectors, when they do make a change from Willis, will turn first to Gower, Tavaré or Gatting.

Botham captained Somerset for the last part of last season, after injury had forced Rose to stand down. There was talk when Rose withdrew, of a palace revolution. But who would fancy his chance, unless he were a great player or born with a field marshal's baton in his mouth, of reconciling so many contrasting talents as go to make up the present Somerset side.

Rose had under his command the world's greatest batsman in Richards; a former England captain, who when he chooses can be as awkward as a bull in a Long Room; an articulate holder of first-class honours at Cambridge; 10-foot-tall bowler from Barbados who, being so good, knows he can play pretty well on his own terms; a past student of literae humaniores at Oxford; several young players with an eye on the main chance and older ones who were sons of the Somerset soil and had a loyal local following.

On one or two occasions toward the end of last season, particularly in Somerset's NatWest Trophy semi-final against Middlesex at Lord's, Botham showed what an inspiration he can be, even when he is captain. By the time he leads Somerset into the field at home next April he will probably have cracked the opposing side's crossbar, playing for Scunthorpe United, flown solo round the Outer Hebrides, nailed a few pheasants, caught a few salmon and been a sensation in Fiji, New Zealand and Pakistan.

If I were a Somerset member I would go the more eagerly to Taunton knowing that Botham was in charge. So, I fancy, if he were still alive, would John Daniell, one of the great characters, and captains of Somerset who is himself, in the words of Raymond Robertson-Glasgow, "the shepherd of a strange flock".

● More than 800 Yorkshire County Cricket Club members are urgently being sought because their votes could swing the vote at the special general meeting at Harrogate on December 3. They have not received voting papers because they did not pay their subscriptions this year. But the Yorkshire Members 1984 group are claiming that a member who paid his subscription in 1982 is entitled to vote until December 31 of this year.

Vengsarkar scores his eighth Test century

Bombay (Reuter) – Dilip Vengsarkar scored his eighth Test match century yesterday as India has the better of the opening day of the fourth Test against the West Indies here. At the close of play, India were 259 for four after a second wicket partnership of 133 between Vengsarkar and Gaekwad had put them safely on their way.

It was Vengsarkar's second consecutive Test century, achieved off 135 balls in 201 minutes. He was out caught in the gully trying to square cut Davis having hit 13 fours.

Vengsarkar and Gaekwad, who made 48 in 148 minutes, came together when a controversial leg-before decision by the umpire M V Gothoskar, ended Gavaskar's innings with the score 12. Gavaskar had begun with a flourish, striking two fours and scoring all 12 runs from only six balls when he was dismissed.

Gaekwad fell 30 minutes after lunch, bowled by Holding, but Vengsarkar remained at the crease until 20 minutes before tea. The pair had carried the score from 12 to 145 in 28 overs but, after Gaekwad's departure, when he tried to force Holding off the back foot, the scoring rate deteriorated.

After tea India's batting became laborious. Shastri offered little variation in his strokes and Malhotra, in his first Test match since India's tour of England last year, seemed tense. He looked vulnerable outside off stump and, with the score 234, Holding had Malhotra, who had been at the wicket for more than two hours and a half, caught behind for 32.

Although Shastri hit three fours, he made only 29 from 103 balls before bad light stopped play with two overs remaining. Today is a rest day and India will be pleased to have the experienced Shastri and Binny to face the new ball on the resumption tomorrow.

INDIA: First Innings

S M Gavaskar lbw b Marshall	12
A D Gaekwad b Holding	48
D B Vengsarkar c Richards b Davis	100
A O Malhotra c Dujon b Holding	32
R J Shastri not out	29
R M H Binny not out	14
Extras (b 4, lb 5, w 1, nb 14)	24
Total (4 wkts)	259

Kapil Dev, S Madan Lal, S M H Kirmani, S Yadav and Maninder Singh to bat. FALL OF WICKETS: 1-12, 2-145, 3-190, 4-234.

BOWLING: Marshall 15-3-52-1; Holding 24-7-66-2; Davis 17-1-64-1; Daniel 15-2-67-0; Gomes 1-0-1-0.

WEST INDIES: C G Greenidge, D L Haynes, I V A Richards, H A Gomes, C H Lloyd, R B Richardson, P J Dujon, M D Marshall, W W Daniel, M A Holding, W W Davis.

Umpires: M V Gothoskar and Swaroop Kishen.

Under playing conditions for the series, no-balls and wides are debited to bowlers' analysis.

Stellenbosch, South Africa (AP) – A West Indian team defeated Boland by four wickets with 22 overs to spare in a 50-overs match yesterday.

Boland's Stephen Jones and Howie Bergins built on a lunchtime score of 107 for five with a sixth-wicket stand of 50 in 52 minutes. Collis King claimed two wickets and two run outs

BOLAND: (50 overs): 132 for 8 (S Jones 33; C King 2 for 22). WEST INDIES: 133 for 6 (F Bacchus 45, King 36).

TENNIS

McEnroe says all umpires are bad

Canberra (Agencies) – John McEnroe talked yesterday about the look of fear on the faces of umpires when he walked onto the court before a match. "You can see it in their eyes and that doesn't lead to confidence in umpiring", he said. "I don't know of any good umpires, they are all equally bad no matter where you go."

Facing a barrage of questions from reporters here after beating the Australian, Paul McNamee, 6–1, 6–1 in a round-robin tournament, McEnroe added: "You have got to get umpires who are confident in themselves, that know the players they are dealing with. They should be docked for doing a bad job just as players are."

But McEnroe said he preferred to talk about his game and the way other top players performed rather than discuss the competence of officials. He went on to say his improved performance in head to head clashes against Ivan Lendl, who beat John Fitzgerald 1–6, 6–1, 6–2 in the day's other match, was the result of his more aggressive play.

The two meet tomorrow and McEnroe added: "He beat me the last time and seven times in a row before I beat him three times, so I still have a losing record which I would like to change."

● The field of eight teams for the men's doubles tournament to be played at the Royal Albert Hall from January 3 to 8 will include Mark Edmondson and Sherwood Stewart, runners-up for the French championship, and Fritz Buehning and Peter Fleming, who both took part in the United States final but with other partners (Rex Bellamy writes). The five teames previously announced include three of the last four pairs at Wimbledon. One team remains to be announced.



McEnroe: up in arms over umpires who shake his confidence

Seeds fall but Miss Durie grows in stature

Sydney (Reuter) – Jo Durie established herself as the favourite for the New South Wales Open title with a 6-2, 6-2 victory over her fellow Briton, Anne Hobbs, in the third round here yesterday.

Kathy Jordan, of the United States, the fourth seed, served impressively to beat Catherine Suire, of France, 7-5, 6-3. Nina Garrison, also of the United States, the second seed, lost 6-4, 6-4 to Helena Sukova, of Czechoslovakia. Miss Sukova, aged 18, trailed 4-1 in the first set but then won seven consecutive games

Miss Garrison joined top-seeded Hana Mandlikova, of Czechoslovakia, who lost to Elizabeth Sayers of Australia on Tuesday, fifth-seeded Carling Bassett, of Canada, Seventh-seeded Barbara Potter of the United States and ninth-seeded West German Claudia Kohde-Kilsch as seeded casualties.

THIRD ROUND: J Durie (GB) bt A Hobbs (GB), 6-2, 6-2; K Jordan (US) bt C Suire (Fra), 7-5, 6-3; H Sukova (Cz) bt Z Garrison (US), 6-4, 6-4; S Amiach (Fra) bt A White (US), 3-6, 6-1, 7-6; R Fairbank (SA) bt K Schaefer (US), 5-7, 6-3, 6-2.

Miss Daniels suffers in silence and triumphs

By a Special Correspondent

Liz Jones, the only British player in the quarter-finals of the LTA's international satellite event at the Ace Tennis Centre, Coventry, was yesterday defeated, 6-4, 1-6, 7-6, by Carol Daniels, of the United States. Miss Daniels, who won the last of the satellite events at Manchester a week ago, is a serene soul, who seems to have come to terms with the fact that return of service is not one of her stronger suits. The fact that she remained unruffled undoubtedly contributed to her success in the first set.

The second set always belonged to Miss Jones. The British girl, who, for all her dark mutterings between points, contrived to stay cool, dented the American's confidence at the net and hit a series of fine passing shots.

The decider was very much a mixture of good and bad, with just about the best point the seventh in the tie-break, when Miss Jones employed the kind of tactics she should have used much earlier. She ended up wrongfooting the American to go to 4-3, and then played another good point to make it 5-3. A good service won Miss Daniels the next point, and, after that, everything went her way.

Had the British girl won yesterday, she would have taken her place in the 16-strong field for the Masters at Telford next week. Now, she will have to depend on her name being drawn out of the hat.

RESULTS: J Warringa (Neth) bt J Filkoff (US), 6-3, 6-4; C Daniels (US) bt E Jones (GB), 6-4, 1-6, 7-6; I Cueto (WG) bt C Fullerton (US), 5-7, 6-3, 6-1; K Schuurmans (Bel) bt D Moise (Rom), 6-4, 6-0.

● José Higueras and Kevin Curren, the top two seeds in the South African open tournament suffered surprise defeats in the second round. Claudio Panatta, of Italy, ranked 86th in the world, defeated Higueras, 7-6, 6-2, and Curren, seeded second, disappointed the home crowd in Johannesburg by losing to Colin Dowdeswell, 6-4, 7-6.

BOBSLEIGH

De La Hunty breaks British track record

From Chris Moore in Königssee

For the third time this week Tom De La Hunty broke the British track record at Königssee yesterday to establish himself as a firm favourite for the two-man event at the British bobsleigh championships.

The 27-year-old PT instructor in the RAF, who is stationed at Gutersloh in West Germany, has dominated the three days of official practice, setting the fastest time in eight successive laufs.

He was so satisfied with his unbeaten record with brakeman Peter Lund, a helicopter technician at RAF Odiham, that he opted out of the final practice run yesterday.

"There might be a bit of psychology surrounding that decision, although there's no doubt he's been driving exceptionally well and looks the man to beat", said British team manager Mo Hammond.

De La Hunty's form, in fact, has presented Hammond with the sort of problem he had been hoping to avoid, for Britain's Olympic squad was pre-selected after last year's British championships, and De La Hunty is not included in it.

So could Britain got to Sarajevo in February without their national champion should De La Hunty continue to outshine the three selected drivers?

"In short, yes", said Hammond, "because winning one event doesn't automatically secure Olympic selection, even if it is the British championships. There are a lot of other considerations to be taken into account.

"Having said that, De La Hunty has looked the part here, and if he wins tomorrow he'll be added to the Olympic squad for next month's Sarajevo Cup.

"We would then see which three out of four do best on the Olympic track and take matters from there. We can only enter three crews on the Olympics, and only two to them will actually compete."

The way things have gone so far, defending champion Malcolm Lloyd, who has won the title four times in the last six years, finds himself under most pressure.

He has struggled to coordinate his efforts with Peter Brugnani, his brakeman, though their experience could count a great deal in this morning's first two laufs. The final two are run tomorrow.

But Lloyd is not the only one with problems here. Nick Phipps, unofficially the driver, has been handicapped by a groin injury

Throughout practice Phipps has had to sit in at the start. He will only decide after a fitness test this morning whether to assist his brakeman Paddy Bredin with a running start.

Mike Pugh, an Army Captain and the other pre-selected Olympic driver, produced his fastest time in the final practice run yesterday and should figure in what Hammons expects to be the closest fought championship of recent years.

Of the up-and-coming brigade, Jeff Schuneman may be a dark horse. He would have been with Britain's peace-keeping force in Lebanon if he had not been allowed leave from the Welsh Cavalry regiment to compete in the championships. He has got within 0.43 seconds of De La Hunty's new British best time of 52.80 seconds.

Yesterday's final practice was marred by the only serious injury so far to Alan McKenness, at London, who was having only his second drive from the top of a bobtrack. He suffered a broken collarbone after overtuning inthe esses, having lost his line and hit the top of the banked walls.

FISHING

Gamble on Tweed beats could still pay dividends

By Conrad Voss Bark

Three moderate cheers for the news of Scottish salmon. Once the nets were off and the rains came in September quite a few of the better rivers had reasonably good runs right down from Caithness to Berwick and that is worth a lot. On Tweed, the beginning of September proved fair without being outstanding, but two small lifts of water came in mid-September, and in the first week of October there was a good spate and all the fish moved at the same time.

From then on, most fly fishermen were taking two or three fish a day on the prime quality beats and that went on throughout the month. By November, however, the water had dropped and it looked as though the backend rods might be starting to struggle for a take.

It is worth remembering that the spring run on Tweed this season was not too bad and that Strutt and Parker still have some vacancies on Junction, Sprouston and Upper Hendersyde beats right up to the end of May next year. A good gamble on one of these beats might pay off. It all depends, on nets and water.

A few salmon have been sighted breasting the Clyde. These seem to be fish whose native waters are the rivers below the formerly polluted areas. They now appear to be inclined to push up river to explore for redds. An encouraging sign.

Further encouraging news is that the Scots are now taking a determined attitude against poachers. This puts a lot of us in England to shame. At Duns Court, an illegal drift netter was fined £500 and had his boat confiscated – the first time that a drift netter's boat has been taken as part of the penalty. It is interesting that the bulk of the evidence against him was photographic, taken by an aerial camera from a spotter plane. In a similar case at Berwick there was a fine of £1,000 for illegal drift netting. English water authorities and magistrates, please take note.

RACING: BRADLEY SWITCHES TO MIDNIGHT LOVE IN HENNESSY

Plundering's cup victory helps Francome forget his fine

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

Yesterday's thaw came too late to save the programme at Haydock Park, but at least Wincanton benefited from the rise in temperature. Unfortunately, an unpleasant blend of fog and fine rain contrived to spoil the spectacle. By the time the main race, the Lord Stalbridge Memorial Gold Cup was staged, the runners were mere ghostly indiscernible figures as they raced down the back stretch towards the far end of the course.

Keengaddy led for much of the way but he was a spent force three fences from home where Plundering and Koga Way forged ahead. At the end Plundering was in complete command, so continuing John Francome's winning streak which has taken in Ascot; Camden, in South Carolina, Leicester, Plumpton and now Wincanton in the past six days.

It was just as well for Francome that he did win on Plundering because he was fined £180 by the stewards earlier in the day for dropping his hands on Areus towards the end of the Filtrans Handicap Hurdle. The stewards were of the opinion that this cost him second place. Francome was found guilty of the same offence on Observe at Newbury in October so the stewards took a dim view of the reoccurrence and increased the fine.

Plundering is owned by Mrs Miles Valentine, an American who will be over from the United States to see him and her other horse, Aces Wild, run on the same afternoon at either Cheltenham or Lingfield next month.

Fred Winter has declared Aces Wild for the Oxfordshire Steeplechase at Newbury today but he will wait until this morning before deciding whether or not to risk him. His decision will be governed by how much rain has fallen overnight. If there has been enough he will school him over a few fences and then send him to the course.

Sheik Ali Abu Khamsin who has been the leading owner under National Hunt rules for the past two years, had his 20th winner of the current season when Lucky George has now contributed four times to that total

But for a bad mistake at the last fence Beni would have won the Cerne Abvas Novices Steeplechase in the opinion, of his rider, Paul Leach. As it was, he was beaten three lengths by Royal To Do who is a diminutive half brother, measuring 15.2 hands, to the Grand National winner, Well To Do, and Royal Marshal II who won the King George VII Steeplechase at Kempton. Princess Puzzlement, their dam, was 28 when she gave birth to her latest winner.

Life has not exactly treated Con Horgan kindly since he took over from Ryan Price at Findon, having been his assistant there for nine years. So, Sarah's Venture's win in the first division of the Young Farmers' Novices Hurdle, following her victory at Windsor on Monday, must have been a big shot in his arm. Sarah's Venture is owned by Molly Jackson, who also owned Horgan's first flat winner, so she is a very special person in his book.

At Newbury today Peter Bailey has chosen the first division of the Freshman's Novices Hurdle to introduce that smart Flat racer Jowoody to jumping. Bailey has already won a similar race at Ascot recently for Jowoody's owner, David Horswell, with Statemanship. Jowoody has won four races on the flat last season.

Leave it to Bally, who led Santella King and Record Dancer such a merry gallop at Cheltenham earlier this month, is likely to get the sort of pace that will bring Jowoody's stamina into full play.

The other division, which was won by that good horse Cut A Dash 12 months ago, has drawn Harvester Gold, Paris North, and Society Boy who have all been placed in similar races already this autumn. My preference is for Paris North who performed with a degree of promise at Ascot last Saturday

Bright Oasis, my selection for the Round Oak Handicap Hurdle, was running in realy well at the end of two miles at Cheltenham recently when he finished third to Palatinate and Boardman's Crown. He should find two and a half miles very much to his liking now.

Dickinson relies on Marnik

By Michael Seely

Graham Bradley will ride Midnight Love for Denys Smith in tomorrow's Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Newbury following a disappointing gallop by Ashley House yesterday.

Michael Dickinson, announcing that Marnik will be his only runner in the big race, said yesterday: "I sent both Ashley House and Marnik to work at Malton this morning because of the better going. Bradley said that although Ashley House didn't go too badly, he didn't go well enough. In the circumstances, it wouldn't be fair to run him."

The champion trainer also announced his plan for Bregawn, Wayward Lad and Silver Buck. "Bregawn goes to Chepstow next Saturday to try and repeat last year's win in the Rehearsal Chase. Wayward Lad has been rerouted from Haydock to Huntingdon for the Peterborough Chase next Tuesday and Silver Buck runs at Market Rasen tomorrow."

Stanford colt brightens a dank day

From Simon O'Loughlin
Newmarket

The other face of the bloodstock market was in evidence at Newmarket's December Sales yesterday when a sizeable proportion of those submitted on the first full day of foal selling failed to cover their cost of production.

There was always sharp interest in the good-looking individual but generally the day was very much a 'B' team affair, further weakened by the withdrawal of the Shirley Heights half-sister to Band. Trade will show a dramatic upturn today, however, when the foals include Airlie Stud's Habitat full-brother to Ancestral, twice a group winner in Ireland this year.

A dank Newmarket afternoon yesterday was brightened by the appearance of an attractive chesnut colt by the young Red God stallion Stanford for whom agent Jack Doyle paid 30,000 gns. Stanford had six individual winners from his first crop to race in 1983.

Sent up from Barleythorpe Stud in Leicestershire, the colt is a half-brother to those high-class performers Noelino and Little Bonny, both by Bonne Noel. Noelino won two group two races in Ireland, and Little Bonny was runner-up in the Irish Guinness Oaks

The colt was bought on behalf of a syndicate involving the late Fred Rimell's daughter-in-law Mary Rimell, his daughter Scarlet and her husband Robin Knipe, and Doyle himself. the colt will be reoffered at Newmarket as a yearling.

The British Bloodstock Agency went to 27,000 gns to secure Sunflower Stud's chestnut own-brother by Mandrake Major to three useful winners, including Sajeda, who has placed this year in the Molecomb, Queen Mary, and Cherry Hinton Stakes. The colt will be reared and raced in South Africa.

Trethowan's gloomy forecast

British racing could face a financial crisis by 1985 unless bookmakers increase their contributions. That is the view of Sir Ian Trethowan, chairman of the Horserace Betting Levy Board. Commenting on the board's twenty-second annual report, which is published today, Sir Ian warned that a seven per cent reduction in the levy rates paid by bookmakers last year had put a big question mark over racing's finances.

He said: "Unless the seven per cent cut is restored our uncommitted reserves will be virtually exhausted by March 1985. In the financial year under review, we were able to balance our books and to make only a modest call on our reserves, but since then, our position has deteriorated seriously."

So far bookmakers have refused to meet the board's new demands. Sir Ian pointed out that the levy rates had been reduced last year because bookmakers expected a decline in turnover, but their fears proved groundless. Despite the



Sir Ian Trethowan

worst spring for years, turnover and profit have held up well, he said.

This has now left the board with a shortfall of over £1m between the projected income for 1983-84 and the yield of the previous year. "The current levy scheme is estimated to produce £19.1m but the current 1983-84 scheme is expected to produce only £17.8m.

He said: "We have been forced to make severe cuts in our expenditure this year, particulary in our contribution to prize-money, and any further cuts would seriously undermine our support for the industry.

"The Bookmakers' committee are asking for a further reduction of four per cent in the rates and the matter has been referred to the Home Secretary for determination. We shallundoubtedly draw his attention to the fact that the severe economies we have made already have reduced the level of support we give to the industry to a point at which we are in danger of jeopardizing public confidence in the integrity of the sport."

● The Tote's racecourse turnover rose 4.5 per cent in the last financial year to £18,581,986. This enabled the Tote board's contribution to racing to reach £1,599,921. Profits were also up. Trading profits were £724,805, an increase of £694,406 on last year. Computerization costs, however, cut net profits to £174,085. The Tote has now installed computer equipment on every British racecourse except Cartmel.

Newbury

Going: FIRM
Tote: Double 2.0, 3.0. Treble 1.30, 2.30, 3.30.

1.0 FRESHMANS HURDLE (Div I: 3-y-o novices: £1,371: 2m 100yd) (7 runners)

101 01 TEDDINGTON JEWEL (F Walden) R Frost 11-7 .... J Frost
103 CHILDOWN (R Clifford-Turner) Mrs N Kennedy 11-0 .... S Shilston
105 JOWOODY (D Horswell) P Bailey 11-0 .... R Linley
106 03 LEAVE IT TO BALLY (B) (J Hollerman) M McCormack 11-0 .... P Barton
108 0 MOUNT BOLUS (A Sandeman) D Oughton 11-0 .... R Rowe
109 02 NIALAN (N De Savary) J Jenkins 11-0 .... J Francome
111 03 POLO BOY (Mrs A Herbage) G Balding 11-0 .... B Reilly

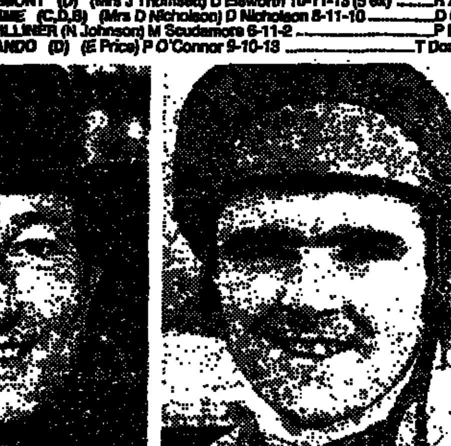
5-2 Leave It To Bally, 7-2 Jowoody, 5 Nialan, 6 Polo Boy, 7 Childown, 8 Mount Bolus, 10 Teddington Jewel.

1.30 CLANFIELD CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS CHASE (handicap: £2,029: 3m) (6)

202 004-2n1 AMBREMONT (D) (Mrs J Thomsett) D Elsworth 10-11-13 (5 ex) .... R Arnott
203 1p-00p0 OAKPRIME (C,D,B) (Mrs D Nicholson) D Nicholson 8-11-10 .... D Chinn
208 28p-001 FRED PILLINER (N Johnson) M Scudamore 6-11-2 .... P Dever
209 f303p-0 WREMANDO (D) (E Price) P O'Connor 9-10-13 .... T Donnelly
210 3fp-p01 400 NOCTE (Dr R Brimblecombe) N Henderson 8-10-13 (5 ex) .... P Croucher
211 /13fp-p WILLOW BROOK (R Pike) P Brookshaw 9-10-7 .... R Pusey

5-4 Ambremont, 5-2 Fred Pilliner, 9-2 400 Nocte, 8 Oakprime, 12 Wremando, 16 Willow Brook.





Peter Bailey and Richard Linley team up with the promising newcomer Jowoody in the Freshman's Hurdle (1.0)

2.0 JACKY UPTON CHASE (handicap: £2,662: 2m 4f) (2)

307 4-13112 BASHFUL LAD (D) (Mrs F Parkes) M Oliver 8-11-7 .... A Webber
311 3f1-u21 IDEN GREEN (P Hannaford) D Grissell 8-11-1 (6 ex) .... M Perrett

4-6 Iden Green, 11-10 Bashful Lad.

2.30 OXFORDSHIRE CHASE (£2,856: 2m 160yd) (4)

405 44-1231 MONZA (J Fenwick) P Cundell 5-11-0 .... R Rowe
406 2110- ACES WILD (Mrs M Valentine) F Winter 5-10-11 .... J Francome
411 00f00-0 MOSSY MOORE (B Chinn) B L Chinn 7-10-11 .... J Goodwin 4
412 00403-1 QUAZAR LIGHT (Mrs R Cobden) L Kennard 8-11-0 .... –

13-8 Monza, 2 Quazar Light, 5-2 Aces Wild, 10 Mossy Moore.

3.0 ROUND OAK HURDLE (handicap: £2,516: 2m 4f 120yd) (9)

508 /000-33 BRIGHT OASSIS (B) (Lt-Col E Phillips) K Bailey 7-11-7 .... M Perrett
510 01-3031 SKATEBOARD (T Brunton) D A Wilson 7-11-1 .... –
512 121010 CROWN LAND (Mrs D Cousins) J Jenkins 8-11-1 .... –
513 00/0022 KNOWING CARD (Mrs D Merry) P M Taylor 8-11-0 .... A Carroll
515 00-2012 ALMIGHTY ZEUS (D Hodges) D Elsworth 6-10-12 .... J H Davies 4
518 0310-00 OUR FUN (M Tabor) J Gifford 6-10-10 .... R Rowe
519 p2p-431 NEVER DEEMED (Mrs V Phillips) F Winter 7-10-10 (6 ex) .... J Francome
520 1320-02 MINERS LODGE (P Axon) W Fisher 10-10-9 .... Steve Knight
526 p-00f011 PETER ANTHONY (R Hickman) R Hickman 5-10-0 (6 ex) .... P Scudamore

11-4 Never Deemed, 100-30 Skateboard, 4 Peter Anthony, 11-2 Bright Oassis, 8 Our Fun, 8 Almighty Zeus, 12 others.

3.30 FRESHMANS HURDLE (Div II: 3-y-o novices: £1,385: 2m 100yd) (9)

604 CONOR'S ROCK (J Livock) D Tucker 11-0 .... S McNeil
607 2 HARVESTER GOLD (B Cambidge) B Cambidge 11-0 .... Mr J Cambidge 4
610 040 LENNON (Mrs M O'Toole) M O'Toole (Ire) 11-0 .... Mr C P O'Toole 7
611 3 PARIS NORTH (N Goymer) J Jenkins 11-0 .... J Francome
613 6 ROYAL BRIGADIER (G Moses) G Balding 11-0 .... B Reilly
615 2 SOCIETY BOY (H Mould) D Nicholson 11-0 .... P Scudamore
617 p0 VICTORY WARRANT (R McGhie) D Williams 11-0 .... F Berry
619 BOURNEMOUTH BELLE (Mrs J Duffy) J Duffy 10-9 .... Mr M Pitman 7
622 u RHODONNA (B Chinn) B Chinn 10-9 .... J Goodwin 4

15-8 Society Boy, 5-2 Paris North, 7-2 Harvester Gold, 6 Lennon, 12 Royal Brigadier, 15 others.

Newbury selections

1.0 Jowoody, 1.30 Fred Pilliner, 2 Bashful Lad, 2.30 Aces Wild, 3.0 Bright Oassis, 3.30 Paris North.

Leicester

Going: FIRM

12.45 BEGINNERS HURDLE (Div I: 3-y-o: novices: £690: 2m) 10 runners)

5 ERRIGAL (W Kendrick) R Hollinshead 10-10 .... J J O'Neill
9 HARD KINGDOM (W Clay) W Clay 10-10 .... C Mann 4
11 IRISH CAVALIER (Barry Hearn Ltd) D Morrill 10-10 .... A Webb
14 LINCOLN ART (Mrs C Lincoln) G Games 10-10 .... –
15 03 MAC'S GIFT (A Robinson) S Bridge 10-10 .... W Morris 4
25 SPARKABLE (M Jaggs) M Usher 10-10 .... M Bastard
26 004 THE SHINER (Brig C Harvey) D Nicholson 10-10 .... N Madden
28 WOJO (M Baxter) M Ryan 10-10 .... G McCourt
32 4 MOREAN (G Greenwood) A Turnell 10-5 .... E Waite
33 0 PRINCESS HENHAM (J Smith) N Callaghan 10-5 .... G Bradley

8-11 Mac's Gift, 9-4 The Shiner, 7 Morean, 16 Wojo, Princess Henham, 25 Hard Kingdom, 33 others.

1.45 BRIAN INGAMELLS SNOOKER CLUB HURDLE (Novice: claiming: £967: 2m) (7)

3 0-02u02 PRETTY TOUGH (B) (D Iliffe) W Clay 5-11-3 .... C Mann 4
4 040-230 KRISTEN (S Brown) R Hoad 5-11-2 .... M Hoad 7
9 003-0p0 SWAYING TREE (R Harper) H Harper 6-11-0 .... Mr R Harper
11 03-4 AMANDA MARY (R Stubbs) R Stubbs 5-10-9 .... P Tuck
15 10/ BELLE VUE (R Hollinshead) R Hollinshead 10-10-7 .... J J O'Neill
19 080-003 PEPS LAST (B) (G M Price) G M Price 8-10-7 .... Colin Price
21 0-p0000 ST PETROCK (B) (Mrs P Morrison) R O'Connor 9-10-7 .... S McDonald 7

13-8 Amanda Mary, 2 Peps Last, 6 Pretty Tough, 8 Kristen, 12 Swaying Tree, 33 Belle Vue, St Petrock.

1.45 SILVER BELL CHASE (Handicap: £1,530: 3m) (7)

9 021f-0 PERSONALITY PLUS (D Pickering) W Francis 7-11-7 .... R Crank
10 f441-32 FATHER GLEB (Miss C Allsopp) T Forster 7-11-7 .... H Davies
11 02-14fu KRAKAR (I Wills) N Henderson 7-11-5 .... DOUBTFUL
12 11p33-0 MASTER NIBBLE (C Holmes) C Holmes 8-11-5 .... A Webb
14 031-f11 ANOTHER PLATER (D) (I Steers) P G Bailey 8-11-4 (5 ex) .... R Stronge 4
17 20p-0p0 KARS (Fletchline Ltd) J Old 7-10-7 .... S Morshead
20 b4300f VERY FRIENDLY (Devilles Ltd) P Bevan 7-10-0 .... S J O'Neill

7-4 Another Plater, 9-4 Father Gleb, 4 Personality Plus, 8 Master Nibble, 12 Kars, 20 Very Friendly.

2.15 SILEBY CHASE (Novices: £1,342: 2m) (4)

2 011f04 KYOTO (D) (B Monkhouse) J Jenkins 5-11-12 .... S Smith Eccles
10 f3040-2 ROADSTER (C Nash) C Nash 7-11-5 .... H Davies
11 140-222 SCOTS NOGGER (D Spearing) J Spearing 8-11-5 .... S Morshead
16 0-u0004 CHAMBESY (H Insley) W Clay 4-10-7 .... C Mann 4

8-13 Roadster, 7-2 Scots Nogger, Kyoto, 16 Chambesy.

2.45 WALTHAM HURDLE (Handicap: £1,119: 2m) (7)

8 3-0f404 SHOW BUSINESS (D) (J Bodily) J Webber 6-11-7 .... G McCourt
10 2u3-123 ALFIE DICKINS (D) (Dickins Ltd) R Hollinshead 5-11-6 .... J J O'Neill
11 121f00/ KESWICK (CD) (N Callaghan) N Callaghan 8-11-6 .... –
16 132404- DOUBLE DISCOUNT (D) (Mrs J Ramsden) C James 5-10-11 .... H Davies
19 0000/00 GLEN MOY (D) (M Barraclough) M Barraclough 8-10-6 .... –
20 140032 PRINCELY LAD (Mrs Y Silver) M Tate 5-10-6 .... R Hyett
25 0000-00 DISCO DANCER (D) (Mrs E Hackett) A Fisher 6-10-2 .... D Fisher

11-10 Princely Lad, 7-2 Double Discount, 9-2 Alfie Dickens, 8 Show Business, 12 Keswick, 25 Glen Moy, Disco Dancer.

3.15 BEGINNERS HURDLE (Div II: 3-y-o: novices: £690: 2m) (11)

5 0 CELTIC MARCH (J Abernethy) P Pritchard 10-10 .... H Davies
10 204400 MELTON ROSS (E Stanton) D Morrill 10-10 .... A Brown
15 RHYTHMIC PASTIMES (P Byrne) J Jenkins 10-10 .... S Smith Eccles
18 4 SENTRY MAN (R Whiting) L Lightbrown 10-10 .... K Sims 7
20 34 TAGIO (M Smith & Son Ltd) M Tate 10-10 .... C Smith
25 GRANDREAMS (G T Gaines) G Gaines 10-5 .... –
26 0 HIGHLAND ROSSIE (Rowe Frieght) R Hollinshead 10-5 .... J J O'Neill
28 030 KATE THE SHREW (Major R Thorman) C James 10-5 .... G McCourt
29 PALACE OF LOVE (C Fleer) H Fleming 10-5 .... –
31 RHYMING (D Hockenhull) W Jenks 10-5 .... –
34 000 TAMWORTH TRACK (J Cullen) S Bridge 10-5 .... W Morris 4

2 Rhythmic Pastimes, 11-4 Sentry Man, 4 Tagio, 10 Kate The Shrew, 12 Melton Ross, 16 Rhyming, Highland Rossie, 25 others.

Leicester selections

By Michael Phillips

12.45 The Shiner. 1.15 Kristen. 1.45 Another Plater. 2.15 Roadster. 2.45 Alfie Dickins. 3.15 Tagio.

Big increases at Goffs

Goffs five-day breeding stock sale came to a close this week with big increases in aggregate and average Simon O'Loughlin writes. A total of 687 lots were sold for 11,808,330 Irish guineas (£9,900,000), at an average of 17,188 Irish guineas (£14,500). These figures are up 150 per cent and 118 per cent, respectively, on the corresponding figures last year.

● Irish trainer Michael Morris said that Buck House will definitely run in the Gerry Feilden Hurdle at Newbury tomorrow. Tommy Carmody travels over for the ride.

Results from Wincanton

Going: firm

12.45 YOUNG FARMERS HURDLE (Div I: novices: £846: 2m)

SARAH'S VENTURE br f by Averof – Railway Hill (Mrs J Jackson) 4-10-3 L Mancini (4-6 fav) 1
Silver Maid .... P Leach (14-1) 2
Rivers Lad .... B Reilly (12-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £1.80. Places: £2.80, £1.10. DF: £8.80. CSF: £11.43. C Horgan at Findon. 4l, 1½l. Swedish Bean (15-2) 4th. 8 ran. NR: Hinton Corner.

1.15 CHARD CHASE (handicap: £1,885: 2m)

ALTAGHADERRY RUN b m by Deep Run – Curry Lass (Mrs L Clay) 8-11-0 J Lovejoy (7-1) 1
Tudor Road .... C Brown (11-4) 2
Seamdown .... [illegible] 3

TOTE: [illegible]

1.45 FILTRANS HURDLE (handicap: £2,796: 2m 6f)

LUCKY GEORGE br g by Baragoi – Julia's Birthday (Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin) 5-11-0 R Linley (7-1) 1
Dropshot .... A Webber (3-1) 2
Areus .... J Francome (11-8 fav) 3

TOTE: Win: £1.70. Places: £1.70, £1.30. DF: £5.90. CSF: £26.21. L Kennard at Taunton. 7l, sh hd. Pasty Miss (14-1) 4th. 9 ran.

2.15 LORD STALBRIDGE CHASE (£2,523: 3m 1f)

PLUNDERING b g by Brave Invader – Ethel's Delight (Mrs M Valentine) 6 10 12 J Francome (evens fav) 1
Koga Way .... P Nicholls (7-2) 2
Black Rod .... Mr S Sherwood (16-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £1.80. Places: £1.20, £1.80. DF: [illegible]

2.45 CERNE ABBAS CHASE (Novices: £1,573: 2m 5f)

ROYAL TO DO ch g by Fury Royal – Princess Puzzlement (J Summner) 8 11 7 H Davies (5-4 fav) 1
Beni .... P Leach (5-2) 2
Langton Siegfried .... P Richards (9-2) 3

TOTE: Win: £3.10. Places: £1.70, £1.80. DF: £3.00. CSF: £4.82. T Forster at Wantage. 31, hd. Britannicas King's Bishop, General Pearl (25-1) 4th. 6 ran nr:

3.15 YOUNG FARMERS HURDLE (Div II: novices: Value (£849 2m)

PRIDEAUX BOY b g by Idiot's Delight – Firella (C Roach) 5 11 7 B Wright (9-1) 1
Flonnadoir .... Mr C Brooks (15-8 fav) 2
Hill-Street-Blues .... S Moore (8-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £8.10. Places: £3.00, £1.70, £2.90. DF: £20.70. CSF: £27.95. C Roach at St Austell. 10l, 2½l. Corporal Clinger (14-1) 4th. 15 ran.

PLACEPOT: £3.40.

● Haydock Park was called off due to frost.

ADVANCE GOING: Tomorrow, Catterick – firm. Market Rasen – firm.

GOLF

Bob Hope Classic falls into an irredeemable bunker of its own making

By John Hennessy, Golf Correspondent

The Bob Hope Classic, which has been held at Moor Park for the last four seasons, has been cancelled. Yesterday's announcement will be received with mixed emotions. Professional golfers loathed it, although it offered them valuable prize-money; a rubber-necking public, turning up in ever-increasing numbers, lapped it up; and the main beneficiary, the Stars Organisation for Spastics (SOS), came to rely on it as an important source of income.

The tournament has foundered on the miscalculation of the costs when it was inaugurated with a presidential flourish from across the Alantic in 1980. For the first two years the losses climbed to £500,000 and, although the last two years have provided a profit, the possibility of an early writing-off of the debts was remote.

John Spurling, the organizer of the tournament, attributes the collapse to the adverse publicity he had been receiving. "People have responded to this publicity, " he said, "And although this is not true, they feel we have been ripping off the tournament. Unfortunately, there is no action we can take about innuendo."

Mr Spurling, whose other business interests lie in advertising, property and mail order, estimated his personal losses at between £150,000 and £200,000.

The tournament certainly received some hostile publicity, partly on the tiny amount for charity that emerged from the mountain of commercial endeavour. The SOS payments, welcome though they no doubt were, were tiny fractions of the budget. This year the tournament cost £900,000 to promote, bringing not only Bob Hope and former President Gerald Ford, with an army of security men, to this country, but also such celebrities as Telly Savalas and James Garner and some whose reputation lay behind them in the United States.

There was, too, a reluctance to put all the cards on the table, face upwards. Not until the third year was it revealed that the first two years had operated at a serious loss and that payment to, among others, SOS and the Eltham Little Theatre (a cause near to Bob Hope's heart since he had been born in that undistinguished corner of South-East London), came from the promoting company.

Mr Spurling maintains that his main supporters had not deserted him. Not one of the four "platinum" sponsors – the *Daily Express*, Cathay Pacific, Wheetabix and Atari this year – had declared a wish to withdraw. They contributed about £120,000 between them this year, in exchange for which they each received one day in the television limelight.

Sheila Rawstorne, the administrator of SOS, was "very, very sad" to receive the news yesterday. They had had payments of £26,000, £32,500 and £50,000 successively in the first three years of the Bob Hope Tournament, a sizeable contribution to an annual income varying between £100,000 and £200,000.

Ken Schofield, secretary of the PGA European Tour, seemed undismayed by yesterday's announcement. "It is virtually certain that the Classic will be replaced on the calendar" he said. "We do not expect this to be a blank week in September".

But one way and another, Mr Schofield is earning his salary as the main provider of sponsors for the tour, since he must find someone to underwrite the Masters, now that Silk Cut, who replaced Dunlop with such apparent enthusiasm earlier in the year, have dropped out after a single season.

There is good news on the other hand (except within the Royal College of Physicians) that the Benson and Hedges Tournament, which comes under the same aegis as Silk Cut, will probably survive. Gallaher's, the tobacco company concerned, have come round to accepting a clash next year with the United States PGA championships and the certain defection of Severiano Ballesteros, Nick Faldo and maybe one or two others, "But we would not wish that to happen again. "An announcement is expected on Monday.

RUGBY UNION

Holmes: striving for fitness

Welsh hopes pinned on Holmes's knee

By Gerald Davies

Terry Holmes went back to hospital this week for what must surely be his last attempt to get fit for this season. It is almost six months since the Lions played the first international of their tour against the All Blacks in Christchurch where a seemingly innocuous incident forced Holmes to retire from the game and subsequently the tour. Jumping and stretching to take a ball at the end of a lineout, Holmes landed and twisted his knee so awkwardly that the ligaments surrounding the joint and the capsule at the back were ruptured. An operation has not been considered necessary although he has been under medical supervision since the incident on June 4.

Although he has been training for quite some time there is still fluid on the knee and movement remains unstable. The purpose of his 48-hour stay at Rhydlafar hospital near Cardiff this week was to elevate the knee in the hope that the fluid would drain away. Holmes had originally intended to play a couple of weeks ago but decided that another month's rest would be advantageous. He hopes to play a match or two before Christmas but optimism about his full recovery is in short supply.

Given the present despondency about the prospects of the Welsh in the championship, there are some who would be quite happy to see him perform only in the four internationals. Others believe he should take a holiday, the only proviso being that he turns up at Twickenham in March for the England match.

It is doubtful whether any one player in recent years has held the key, not so much to victory, but to lifting sagging morale. Of the current Welsh players, Holmes alone can give an identity to a team which, at the moment, is faceless and ordinary. Without his presence and commitment, it remains anonymous. The Welsh supporters, with a dearth of talent and experience in the national squad, are forced to recognize that any change of fortune depends uniquely on the fitness of one man.

Wilson's 'circus' doubt

Wellington (Reuter) – The All Blacks captain, Stuart Wilson, said yesterday that it would be remarkable if the Australian promoter David Lord, managed to start his so-called professional circus by January as planned.

Wilson, arriving home with the All Blacks after their eight-match tour of England and Scotland, said that no details had been revealed to him during the tour, despite the plan to stage the first matches in London on January 14.

Wilson said: "I thought pro rugby would be pushed at me quite heavily. Miracles will have to be performed for it to start over there in January".

The All Blacks manager, Paul Mitchell, in a separate interview, said the circus had little chance of gaining a foothold in Britain. Mr Lord said last September that 248 players from all the leading rugby-playing nations, except South Africa, had signed.

Rafter passed fit

Gloucestershire's captain, Mike Rafter, has been declared fit to lead the holders in their county championship rugby union semi-final against Middlesex at Kingsholm tomorrow. Rafter played for Bristol United on Wednesday night without suffering any reaction to a recent leg injury.

Uppingham lose their unbeaten record

Schools rugby
by Michael Stevenson

Uppingham, after a thoroughly sound start to the season, winning three and drawing three to be unbeaten after six matches, lost successively to Bedford (6-3) and Sedbergh (12-3). Bedford's points came from two penalties by Nutt to a drop goal from Kennedy for the losers, who were beaten rather more decisively by Sedbergh but earned much credit in the process.

Uppingham had not conceded a single try previously and the excellence of their cover, especially by the back row, made Sedbergh work hard for victory, through tries from Payne and Yeoman, with Carling and Alban contributing the conversions. Lewin kicked Uppingham's penalty.

Nutt was in superb form for Bedford again last Saturdayin their 53-3 victory over St Edward's Oxford, scoring 21 points through a couple of tries, a penalty and five conversions.

The former Wakefield, Leicester and Yorkshire centre Ian Gibson, now master in charge of the successful Dulwich side, will be watching the remaining four matches against King's, Canterbury, St Paul's, Cranleigh and Tonbridge with especial interest.

His side is still unbeaten, having won nine and drawn one of 10 matches; Mullins, the England 18-group No 8, has been outstanding. And his well balanced side has also been particularly well served by Field, a talented stand-off half, and the full back, Steele, whose goal kicking has brought 50 points.

Further north, Silcoates are proving that numbers are not everything. With a sixth form of fewer than 60, their rugby is flourishing. They have lost to Hymer's but won the other seven schools matches played, though sterner tests clearly await them when they meet the big Yorkshire grammer schools, Leeds, Wakefield and Bradford.

West Park High School, one of the most successful sides in the North, were due to meet Merchant Taylors', Crosby in midweek but the fixture, which coincided with the Lancashire 18-group final trial at Waterloo on Wednesday, has been rearranged for the new year. These two schools provided seven players for the trial.

MacNeill is on the mend

Hugo MacNeill, the Oxford University captain, plans to take a break from rugby before the University match at Twickenham on December 6. The Ireland and British Lions full back suffered torn ligaments in his right knee during last week's match against Major Stanley's XV.

MacNeill, though is optimistic about his chances: "It's getting better slowly and almost certainly will be all right for the Varsity match. But I'm not going to take any risks and I'm not planning to play again before the big match. I'm going to take it easy to make sure that I'll be perfectly fit for Twickenham." Four other Dark Blues are also in a race against time to be fit.

Cambridge too have injury problems, and their captain, Mark Bailey, has demanded that two of his key players, the former Scottish schoolboy centre, Tim Paterson-Brown, and the Aberavon full back, Andy Martin, prove their fitness tomorrow against Harlequins.

● Somerset, who take on Yorkshire in the county championship semi-final at Bath on Saturday, have requested a change of referee. Ron Mayo, a Bristol policeman, had been appointed, but Somerset have pointed out he lives only 12 miles from the Bath ground and that Yorkshire might consider it unfair. He has been replaced by London Society official, R P Russell.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Dalgreen given the maximum penalty

By Keith Macklin

The severest disciplinary sentence possible, a *sine die* suspension, was yesterday imposed on John Dalgreen, the Fulham hooker, for offences during the Hull Kingston Rovers v Fulham game earlier this month. Dalgreen was found guilty of pushing the referee Gerry Kershaw after an incident in which Dalgreen fouled a Rovers player.

Although the pushing offence is the one quoted by the disciplinary committee, which met in Leeds yesterday, spectators and other observers at the match allege that Dalgreen was so incensed that he had a fierce on-field altercation with Reg Bowden, his manager-coach, before going down the tunnel at the referee's request.

Dalgreen has been in trouble for disciplinary offences several times before, with Fulham and with his earlier club Warrington, and assaulting a referee is regarded as the worst possible offence. The last *sine die* suspension was inflicted upon Les Westhead, of Huyton, in November, 1976, for assaulting Ronnie Moore, the referee. The suspension was subsequently lifted on August 1, 1977.

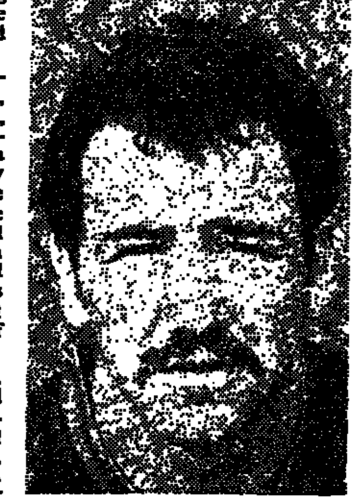
The "trial by television" suspended sentence on Roy Holdstock, the Hull Kingston Rovers forward, was brought into operation yesterday. Holdstock was suspended for a total of eight games for disciplinary offences, six of them from the suspended sentence applied by the committee after members had watched a televison videotape of a game between Hull K. R. and Windes in which Holdstock was involved in an off-the-ball incident with Andy Gregory, the Widnes half back.

Ron Wileman, the Hull hooker, received a total of six matches and Garry Connell received a three-match ban after he had been found guilty of swearing at the referee, Ronnie Campbell, at the end of a game. Others suspended were Peter Roe (Hunslet), Wally Youngman (Carlisle) and Eric Prescott (Widnes), each for two matches, and Trevor Skerrett (Hull), for one match.

Oldham have offered nine players on a "seasonal rental" of prices between £500 and £2,000. They include experienced first team players such as Adrian Alexander, a forward, Garry Bishop and Paddy Kirwan, both half backs, and Geoff Munro, the winger whose 26 tries in 1979-80 were a second division record.

The Great Britain Under-24 team to play France Under-24 at Oldham on December 4 shows five changes from that which won the first fixture in France. The changes involve players who were originally chosen and who are now able to play, having recovered from injury or played out suspensions.

TEAMS: J Lydon (Widnes); G Clark (Hull KR), E Hanley (Bradford N), D Foy (Oldham), B Ledger (St Helens); A Myler (Widnes), R Ashton (Oldham); A Goodway (Oldham), B Noble (Bradford N, capt), L Crooks (Hull), M Worrall (Oldham), B Dunn (Wigan), T Flanagan (Oldham). Subs: G Schofield (Hull), J Fieldhouse (Warrington).


Dalgreen: *sine die* ban

RALLYING

McRae finds room at top to fulfil driving ambition

Jimmy McRae achieved a lifelong ambition by finishing in the top three of Wednesday's Lombard RAC Rally. The quiet, 40-year-old Scot prevented an overseas clean-sweep in the 1800 mile event, coming third in an Opel Manta, behind Stig Blomqvist of Sweden, who won the rally for the second time and Hannu Mikkola, the world champion. He also overtook Russell Brookes as the leading Briton.

McRae said: "This was as good a result as I could have expected. The Audis were always going to be the main danger."

Brookes who said: took his Vauxhall Chevette to fifth place, "Jimmy did extremely well, but I will be back trying to come out on top next year because the RAC is still one of my favourite events."

Blomqvist, winner by nearly 10 minutes, admitted, "I was a little lucky because Hannu had problems early on and that took the pressure off me."

Mikkola, who missed a hat-trick of wins, said, "I am not disappointed at being second in the RAC. It is a hard event and this is still a good result.

"Stig is impossible to catch when he is going well, but my record shows that every time I have been runner-up I have returned and won the next time, and that is what I plan to do again."

ATHLETICS

Women start to catch up the men

Plans for a new women's road race circuit throughout Europe were announced by the New Balance running shore company yesterday, Pat Butcher writes. Woman have been much slower than men to respond to the running boom, but this, the company organizer Tony Ward thinks, results from "women having too much common sense to go from nothing to running the 26 miles of the marathon in a very short time."

There will be 50 10 kilometre (6.2 miles) races in an area from the Arctic Circle to southern Spain, between May and October, with half a dozen events in Britain. The final will be in London in autumn next year.

Grants given to Wells and Miss Whitbread

Allan Wells and Fatima Whitbread received new training grants announced by the Sports Aid Foundation yesterday. Wells and Miss Whitbread are to receive awards, together with Keith Connor, Kathy Cook, Colin Reitz and Tessa Sanderson, and Jo Richards, winner of the Flying Dutchman series at the pre-Olympics sailing regatta.

The grants total £110,000, with other recipients including the British women's Olympic hockey team, the modern pentathlete, Richard Phelps, and the yachtsmen, Robert and Reg White. The Sports Aid Foundation grants are made to amateurs expected to compete with distinction in international championships during the coming year.

HOCKEY

Depleted Sussex could still trouble Surrey

By Joyce Whitehead

Chelsea College and Burgess Hill are setting the pace in the Sussex Indoor League. Chelsea showed their mettle on Wednesday with victories over East Grinstead (8-4) and South Saxons (9-3). In the other match East Grinstead beat South Saxons 5-4.

There are three county championship matches in the southern territory tomorrow. Sussex, who meet Surrey at Imber Court, will be without three of their key players; Judith Davies and Caroline Williams will be at Welsh trials and Sandy Lister is away after a family bereavement. This leaves a young and slightly inexperienced side but so keen are they to do well that Surrey may not have an easy passage.

Surrey beat Hampshire 2-0 last week and have two strong link players in Karen Brown and Ruth Hine. As both teams will be playing a system anything could happen.

Oxfordshire play Hampshire at Bisham Abbey and Middlesex are at home to Berkshire at Winchmore Hill where they start favourites. Tomorrow sees the first of the West's three county championship games and all eit counties will be in action. Hereford and Dorset at Wimborne LHC, Cornwall and Avon at St Austell, Wiltshire and Devon in Trowbridge and Somerset v Gloucestershire still unbeaten in five matches at Morlands.

It is also the East's first appearance in championship matches and Parker's Piece. Cambridge is the ground for Cambridge v Essex and Hertfordshire v Lincolnshire. Hertfordshire hope that with Fenella Simpson back in the side Chris Duffett will have more support. On Sunday Huntingdonshire play Lincolnshire at Bretton Gate, Peterborough and Kent play Norfolk on the Fisons ground in Ipswich. Janice Walker, of Kent, broke a finger in the last match and her place will be taken by a 20-year-old, Karen Walwin, and with Di Carr and Jane Powell in the forward line, they hope to surprise Norfolk.

In the North on Sunday there will be a hard game between Cheshire and Sheffield League at Timperley. Cheshire have only a few changes in the side from last season and team work and a splendid spirit seem the ingredients of their success.

Eight of the nine Midlands counties play on Sunday. Leicestershire beat Worcestershire 11-0 last week and could do the same against Shropshire at Lilleshall.

Surrey's chance for revenge

Surrey, who have lost twice to Middlesex, first in their group match and then in the South final, could meet them for the third time in the quarter-final round of the men's county championship, the draw for which was announced yesterday.First however, Surrey must beat the Royal Air Force in the preliminary round on January 29 next year, (Sydney Friskin writes).

Yorkshire, who have already won the northern title, will be accompanied in the national rounds by either Lancashire or Cheshire, who will play each other on Boxing Day. Lancashire, the county champions, must win; for Cheshire, a draw will be enough.

DRAW: Preliminary round (Jan 29): Surrey v Royal Air Force; Somerset v Hertfordshire; Lancashire or Cheshire v Warwickshire. Quarter-final (Feb 26): Yorkshire v Worcestershire; Surrey or RAF v Middlesex; Cambridgeshire v Gloucestershire; Somerset or Hertfordshire v Lancashire or Cheshire or Warwickshire

VOLLEYBALL

Sponsors go softly softly

By Paul Harrison

The English Volleyball Association expect to gain a new sponsor in time for next season. The sponsor is Britvic, the soft drinks company, and Richard Callicott, the chairman of the EVA, believes that their league sponsorship will be worth around £28,000 over three years.

It had been hoped that Britvic would join forces with the EVA this season, but with no firm deal so far struck and the league programme halfway through it is obvious that the best plan would be to start afresh next season. It is possible, however, that Britvic will sponsor some individual events later this season.

In another development, the EVA have persuaded the United States and Japanese women's teams to visit London en route to a pre-Olympic tournament in Moscow in May next year. The teams, two of the strongest in the world, will play each other in London on May 25.

Four venues are being considered: Wembley, the Albert Hall, Alexandra Palace and Crystal Palace. It should be the highest quality women's volleyball ever seen in this country.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL
Fourth division
Halifax v Darlington (7.30).
RUGBY UNION
CLUB MATCH: Bath v Camborne (7.15).

OTHER SPORT
REAL TENNIS: British Open singles and doubles (at Queen's Club).
SNOOKER : UK Championship (at Guildhall, Preston, 2.30 and 7.30).

Car Buyer's Guide

Motoring by Clifford Webb

25 may be a lucky number for Renault

Renault's top-of-the-range models, the Renaults 20 and 30 have been looking rather dated for some time now. After all they have been around since 1975 and in the interim the competition has stolen a march with a number of exciting quality cars such as the Audi 100. So today's news that the company is fighting back with a sleek new top-liner, the Renault 25, will be good news for dealers, who cannot be happy with Renault's present 3.5 per cent market share in Britain.

The Renault 25 is longer than the present model, 15ft 3ins compared with 14ft 8ins, lower and much more aerodynamically efficient. If the claimed drag coefficient of 0.28 stands scrutiny, and in the past some have not, it pushes the Audi 100s chart topping 0.30 into second place.

For some time now I have been sold on the idea of a combined hatchback/saloon offering the greater safety of the saloon's boot, but without the big overhang of the conventional boot as typified for so long by the Cortina.

The Renault 25 uses a variation of the folding rear seat theme to enlarge the luggage space and suggest that the hatchback saloon configuration is one of the main reasons the 25 is son slippery.

It will not be officially launched until the Geneva motor show in March but, as with most car makers these days, Renault has released photographs and sufficient details to whet the appetite. It will not be available in Britain until the summer and I doubt whether Renault will send all eight versions here or restrict them to two as with the present 2.1 litre 20X and the 2.7 litre 30TX.

It will have a choice of five engines from two litres to 2.7 litre V6 fuel injected with a top speed of 124mph and including two diesels. None of the engines is new, already figuring in existing models.

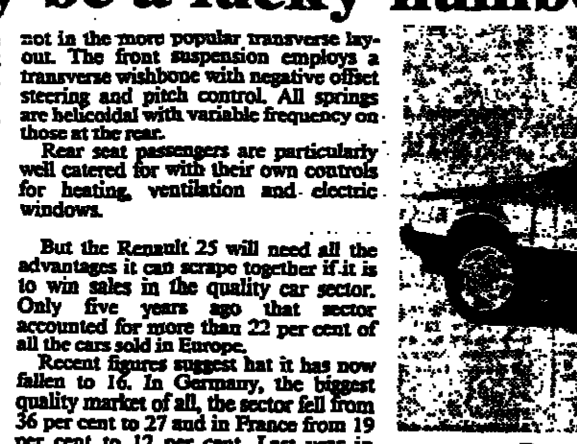
To cater for a range of power units, which differ considerably in length, the engines are mounted longitudinally and not in the more popular transverse layout. The front suspension employs a transverse wishbone with negative offset steering and pitch control. All springs are helicoidal with variable frequency on those at the rear.

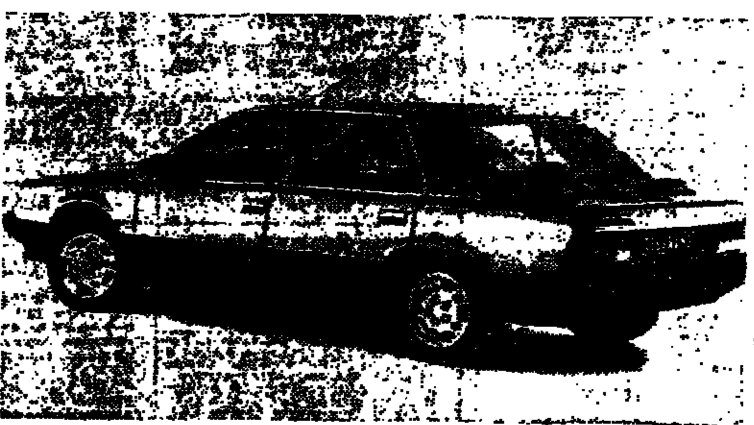
Rear seat passengers are particularly well catered for with their own controls for heating, ventilation and electric windows.

But the Renault 25 will need all the advantages it can scrape together if it is to win sales in the quality car sector. Only five years ago that sector accounted for more than 22 per cent of all the cars sold in Europe.

Recent figures suggest hat it has now fallen to 16. In Germany, the biggest quality market of all, the sector fell from 36 per cent to 27 and in France from 19 per cent to 12 per cent. Last year in Britain it averaged 13 per cent but even in its reduced strength that is well over 200,000 cars each, with a bigger profit potential than more numerous down-market models.

Next year Renault aims to improve its share of the quality car market from 5 per cent to 9 per cent. It blames the decline that sector as much on standardized and stereotyped cars as on inflated purchase prices and operating costs. It remains to be seen how effective the Renault 25 will be in breaking away from the "pack".





Renault 25: Combined hatchback and saloon.

'Son of Cortina'

Many motorists seeing Ford's new Orion for the first time are apt to dismiss it as "just an Escort with a boot" or "son of Cortina". Both are correct up to a point, but once behind the wheel the differences are significant enough to establish Orion's quite separate identity.

The fact that it is already being labelled as Cortina's successor instead of the much sleeker, more controversially styled Sierra is both a plus and a minus for Ford. It fills the need for a traditional three box, four door saloon replacement for the best selling fleet car that market has seen.

But it will also affect Sierra sales by attracting those conservtive buyers, who might eventually have been persuaded to go for the bigger car as familiarity with the increasing numbers of Sierras now reaching our roads overcame initial misgivings.

Certainly the 15.7 cu ft boot, one of the biggest in its class, is much more attractive to the business user seeking greater security for his goods than is aailable with the hatchback Escort and Sierra models.

It also offers excellent rear leg room and head room, setting new targets for Austin Rover's soon to be launched rival, the LM 11.

Escort owners driving an Orion for the first time are liable toecome disenchanted with their present model. In many ways the newcomer is the Escort that should have been. Changes to steering lay out and suspension have solved Escort's choppy ride and heavy steering. The improvement is so noticeable that one wonders how long it will be before the changes are repeated on Escort.

Another improvement, which impresses me as the long term user of an Escort 1.6, is Orion's much more frugal use of fuel. The 1.6 Ghia model I drove for a week recently returned a conservative 36mpg compared with 28 to 30mpg for my own Escort. Moreover, the Orion, with identical power unit, was much smoother with less of the "kangarooing" and harshness in the transmission which mars slow speed changes on the Escort.

The smoothness is probably due to subtle changes in engins mounts and drive shafts but a 20 per cent better fuel consumption is harder to explain. A clue is to be found in Orion's 5mph higher top speed with the same engine and gear ratios. Clearly Orion's longer length and improved aerodynamics make it more slippery, and consequently more efficient.

Vital statistics

Model: Orion Ghia 1.6.
Engine: 1,597cc.
Price: £7,235.
Performance: Max speed 104mph; 0-60mph, 10.2secs.
Official consumption: Urban, 33.2mpg; 56mph, 54.3; 75mph, 40.4mpg.
Length: 13.75ft.
Insurance: Group 4.

My only real complaint is its handling at high speed. There is a nagging feeling of sloppiness in its straight line steering which, if not worrying in itself, does not make for relaxed motorway journeys in what I considered to be moderate cross wind conditions yet Orion veered off line so frequently that I found myself tiring from the combination of extra concentration and firm grip on the steering wheel that was needed to counter it.

Ford has made not bones about its plan to keep Orion up-market of Escort to extend their joint coverage, but for the life of me I cannot see why the Orion Ghia 1.6 should cost mre than £900 on top of the equivalent Escort. I have always believed that Ford's Ghia models are over priced, but a gap that big takes some justifying.

Ford Orion Ghia: Attractive to business user.



PERSONAL COLUMNS

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Court and Social Page announcements can not be accepted by telephone.

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Mine eyes are ever toward the LORD, for he shall pluck my feet out of the net Psalm 25 15

BIRTHS

AINLEY on 22nd November to Caroline and Douglas, a daughter, Jocelyne Caroline Marguerite, a beautiful sister for Alexander

ANDREWS - On 23rd November at Guy's Hospital, London, to Diana (nee Scrivener) and Clive, a daughter, Siobhan Ruth Emily

BEDDOW - On November 16th, to Helena (nee Hanzyk) & Michael - a son (Andrew James Gustav)

DEATHS

PRATLEY - On November 16th 1983, peacefully, Maud, beloved mother of Joan and Rosemary, widow of Leonard Pratley. Cremation, East Hampstead Crematorium, Bracknell, 2pm, 28th November

PREISKEL On November 23rd, doctor Ella Prieskel, D.M.R., deeply beloved wife of Israel "Lou" Preiskel F.R.C.S., deeply loved and deeply mourned.

REED. - On November 22nd, suddenly and peacefully at his home in Old Woking, Surrey, Guy V. Reed, beloved husband of Margaret and father of Delly, Peter and Anthony. Funeral service at St. John's Crematorium, Woking, on Monday, 28th November at 3.00 pm. Family flowers only

SAMUEL - Peacefully on 23rd November, Dr Edward Jeffrey Samuel, aged 87, husband of the late Edith Summerskill, father of Michael & Shirley. Funeral private, no flowers

SULIVAN.--On November 21st, Colonel J A Sullivan, OBE (late Royal Artillery), beloved husband of Elizabeth and father of Timothy and Marcus. Funeral private, memorial service later

MEMORIAL SERVICES

TENCH--, a service of thanksgiving for the life of Roger Tench will be held at St. Clement Danes, Strand, WC2 at 12.00 noon on Monday 12th December

IN MEMORIAM

AHLUWALIA--, In memory of Dr. V. S. Ahluwalia who was a beloved husband, father & doctor. We all love and miss you

DRAKE NICK remembered always with love

DRAKE-- Nick, I remember Autumn as your season - a time of peace and love

DRUMMOND-WOLFF, R H C. Col. - In memory of a dear friend sorely ...

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FULHAM SW6. Young prof, dble room in new flat £40 pw excl 736 9504 after 7 pm.

APPOINTMENTS

INTERVIEWERS

Interviewers, aged 21 to 60, required for part-time temporary survey work at Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted and Luton Airports, February to July 1984. Approximately two 7½ hour shifts per week, £3.20 to £3.50 per hour. Also a SUPERVISOR at Heathrow and Gatwick, Approximately £4 to £5 per hour. Market research experience preferred. Please apply in writing giving details of age, experience, qualifications and family commitments, airports applied for and telephone number to:-

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GREATER LONDON COUNCIL (GENERAL POWERS)

Notice is hereby given that the Greater London Council ("the Council") ... leave to introduce ... Bill") under the ... is a concise summary ...

Business to Business also on page 24

ENTERTAINMENTS

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THEATRES

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هكذا من الأصل

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM: News and information service, available on all television sets, with or without teletext.

6.30 Breakfast Time: with Selina Scott and Mike Smith. Today's specials include a visit to Terry Wogan's Radio 2 money-raising show Children in Need. Other Friday "specials" include pop news (between 7.45 and 8.00), Audrey Eyton's Slim and Shine phone-in (between 8.30 and 9.00) and the Glynn Christian food and cooking spot (8.30–9.00). Morning papers reviewed at 7.18 and 8.18.

9.00 My Music: John Amis and Frank Muir in a musical general knowledge contest with Denis Norden and Ian Wallace. The question-master and keyboard performer: Steve Race (r). Closedown at 9.25.

10.30 Play School: with Chloe Ashcroft. Closedown at 11.05.

12.30 After Noon: with Richard Whitmore and Frances Coverdale; 12.57 Financial Report and sub-titled news.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One: The musical guest is Alvin Stardust. More gardening tips from Peter Seabrook; 1.45 Little Misses and the Mister Men: for the toddlers.

2.00 A Dream of Poppies: The story of two British explorers, George Sherriff and Frank Ludlow, allowed to wander through forbidden Tibet between 1932 and 1949, in search of flowers. They collected more than 25,000 plants.

2.50 The Big Time: How a 17-year-old girl from a children's home trained to be a trapeze girl. The reporter: Esther Rantzen (r).

3.40 Cartoon; 3.55 Play School: It's Friday; 4.20 Mighty Mouse: cartoon; 4.25 Jackanory: Jane Asher reads more pages from The Railway Children (r); 4.40 Take Hart: with Tony Hart and Morph 5.00 Crackerjack: with the young comedy impressionist Gary Wilmot, and musical guests Limahl and Chas and Dave.

5.40 Sixty Minutes: The line-up is: news (at 5.40), regional magazines (5.53), weather (6.15) and closing headlines (6.38).

6.40 Friday Sportstime:

6.55 Children in Need: BBC radio and television stations through the country unite a huge money-raising effort. The appeal is hosted by Terry Wogan. Many celebrity guests will be in the studio during the night, lending their support to this fine cause. Further coverage at 8.50, 9.25 and 10.25, with the final transmission at 11.55.

7.20 Doctor Who: Not one Doctor Who but five, in a special adventure story to mark 20 years of television yarns about the celebrated time-traveller. Peter Davison, the current Doctor Who, is joined in tonight's story by his predecessors, Patrick Troughton, Jon Pertwee and Tom Baker. The role of the first Doctor Who (the late William Hartnell) is taken by Richard Hurndall. (See Choice).

8.50 Children in Need: (contd) including a visit from Dr Who.

9.00 News: with John Humphrys.

9.25 Children in Need: Terry Wogan and more guests.

9.35 Knots Landing: A visit to a haunted house.

10.25 Children in Need: Another progress report on the appeal; 11.00 News.

11.05 James Last: His orchestra play Beatles hits.

11.55 Children in Need: Went the day well? We find out. Ends at 1.15 approximately.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain: with Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. Today's Friday specials include Checkout at 6.50, a special guest at 7.35, Viewers reply to the Monday Moan (7.45), Fantasy Time, with Jack Smethurst (8.05), television preview (8.35) and another Checkout (9.02) Regular items include sport at 6.35, 7.35, and 8.30, Today's papers at 8.25 (approx) and Competition Time (8.25).

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines; 9.30 For Schools: The Dogwhelk; 9.47 How We Used to Live; 10.09 Clowning and miming; 10.26 Work at an artificial limbs centre; 10.43 Job information; 11.05 Animals and Other Poems; 11.22 Christmas Messenger; 11.39 The Middle Trent.

12.00 We'll Tell you a Story: with Christopher Lillicrap (r); 12.10 Rainbow: repeated at 4.00; 12.30 Understanding Toddlers: Anna Ford and the emotional needs of the under-fives.

1.00 News; 1.20 Thames area news; 1.30 About Britain: Anatomy of a Village: final part of the story of Plaxtol, in west Kent.

2.00 Private Benjamin: American Army comedy series with Lorna Patterson; 2.30 Falcon Crest: drama series, set in the California vineyard belt. With Jane Wyman; 3.30 Sons and Daughters: Episode 8.

4.00 Children's ITV: Rainbow (r); 4.20 Dangermouse: episode five of Return of Count Duckula (r); 4.25 Sooty; 4.50 Freetime: Results of the holiday competition; 5.15 The Young Doctors.

5.45 News; 6.00 The 6 o'Clock Show.

7.00 Family Fortunes: with Max Bygraves. The Thompsons from Stoke-on-Trent are matched against the Hallidays from Tottenham.

7.30 The A Team: The soldiers of fortune take on a gang of rustlers.

8.30 A Fine Romance: Laura's pleas for patience fall on deaf ears when customers start withdrawing their orders from hard-pressed Mike, now running the gardening business by himself. With Judi Dench and Michael Williams.

9.00 Auf Wiedersehen, Pet: Third episode of this comedy series about a gang of British 'brickies' working on a German construction site. Thanks to some well-meaning England soccer fans, Oz (Jimmy Nail) finds himself back in England instead of on the train back to Dusseldorf.

10.00 News at Ten.

10.30 The London Programme: The growing battle over the shape that Londoner's future travel arrangements will take. The Government and the GLC are deeply divided on the issue. Occupying the centre ground: London Transport. The struggle between the three forces has already produced a row over GLC leader Ken Livingstone's appointment of Merle Amory, a Brent councillor, to the LT board against the wishes of the LT chairman Keith Bright.

11.00 Continental Movie: Ne Pleure Pas (1978) Drama, made in France, with English sub-titles, about a young lad who is forced to face life alone after his idol – his athletic brother – is seriously injured and confined to a wheelchair. With Xavier Labouse, Sylvain Joubert and Christine Laurent. Directed by Jacques Ertaud. Followed by Night Thoughts.



Dinsdale Landen and Clive Swift in Events in a Museum (BBC 2, 9.25pm)

CHOICE

● The air is thick with political allegory on BBC Television these days. EVENTS IN A MUSEUM (BBC 2, 9.25pm), an anarchic comedy by David Cregan, is really no more about museums than Angus Wilson's *The Old Men at the Zoo* was about zoos. And there is the same bitter after-taste about both of them. Mr Cregan has invented a demented world in which revolutionary democracy, when carried to extremes, is just as ludicrous as the obsessional preservation of the status quo. He overstates his case, however, and when the political satire is mixed with knockabout comedy, the results can occasionally be bewildering. There is however, a grotesque logicality about the play's central argument which is that, once embarked on a policy of treating art as a form of Socialism (if you love the statues in a museum, you ought to be allowed to spend the night locked up with them), the outcome of such radical thinking is that art must go the public and not the other way round. (Glottos are consigned to all-night public conveniences). Dinsdale Landen, a comedy actor who has perfected the art of restrained idiocy, plays the museum's new broom that sweeps the dust into the eyes of his disorientated staff.

● Tonight's other TV highlights: DOCTOR WHO (BBC1, 7.20pm), which celebrates the dawn of the series' third decade by reuniting five Doctors Who in a bumper story, specially written ... And the Ballet Rambert's performance of BERLIN REQUIEM, which Christopher Bruce has choreographed to Kurt Weill's music (BBC 2, 8.00pm).

● THE SPIRIT OF KITTY HAWK (Radio 4, 4.10pm), Ivan Rendall's history of powered flight, started last week on a note of innocence as pioneers created aircraft for the peaceful benefit of their fellow man. Today's instalment brings a dramatic change: now the pilots are flying their noisy machines into battle. Death has sprouted wings.

● Radio 3 sees the start of a two-week musical enterprise that will gladden the hearts of all those who see the Bach cello suites as the apotheosis of glorious writing for this much-loved instrument. Three suites tonight (7.00, 8.10 and 10.10), the remaining three next Monday night.

BBC 2

9.05 Daytime on Two: Today's line-up of educational programmes is: 9.08 Microbes and Man; 9.35 Maths-in-a-Box; 9.52 Dark Towers; 10.15 Mathscore Two; 10.38 Exploring Science; 11.00 The Ile of the land; 11.22 Read On; 11.44 Going to Work (overcoming handicaps); 12.05 The Computer Programme; 12.30 Business Club; 12.55 Speak for Yourself (entertaining friends from different cultures).

1.38 Around Scotland: the border stongholds; 2.01 Why Prejudice?; 2.30 Final instalment of Priestley's An Inspector Calls; 3.00 Closedown.

5.35 News summary: with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.

5.40 The Friday Western: Duel at Silver Creek (1952) Don Siegel western (i.e. above average) about a sheriff who appoints as his deputy a man the townspeople believe is a killer. With Audie Murphy, Stephen McNally and Faith Domergue.

6.55 Dear Manju: Another in this series of plays by Farrukh Dhondy with young Asians in Britain as their common denominator. Ashok Kumar plays the Midlands teenager who takes the law into his own hands when he reads a love letter written to his elder sister (Sharti Patel).

7.25 The Treasures of the Burrell: Last of three films about the great art collection recently housed in Glasgow's Pollok Park. Tonight's film focuses on the Oriental art at the new gallery. Interviews by John Julius Norwich.

8.00 Dance International: The Ballet Rambert in Berlin Requiem: music by Kurt Weill; choreography by Christopher Bruce. Set in the Berlin of the 1920s.

9.00 M*A*S*H: Charles Winchester receives a week's supply of newspapers from home – but he will not allow anybody else in the medical unit anywhere near them. David Ogden Stiers plays Winchester.

9.25 Events in a Museum: Satire, by David Cregan, set in a museum, in which the new director (played by Dinsdale Landen) shatters the orderly existence of the keepers with his democratic regime. But the administrative troubles pale into insignificance compared with what happens when there is a break-in at the museum. With Madge Ryan, Graham Crowden, Clive Swift, and Peter Benson. (See Choice).

10.40 The Light of Experience: The spiritual path along which Ruth Etchells travelled to become the first woman principal of St John's College, Durham.

10.55 Newsnight: bulletins and analysis.

11.40 Whistle Test – On the Road: Mark Ellen introduces Level 42 from The Ace in Brixton. (repeated on BBC2, tomorrow afternoon). Ends at 12.25.

CHANNEL 4

5.00 The Munsters: Horror film spoof, with a strong family flavour. Herman and Lily are in the middle of a cash crisis. Bouncing cheques force them to take drastic measures.

5.30 The Tube: pop music show. Includes a special tribute to Marc Bolan who died in a road accident six years ago. Ringo Starr talks about the strong influence Bolan had on him. Comments, too, from John Peel and Bolan's producer, Tony Visconti. In the studio: The Style Council, The Europeans, The Fall and Kid Creole and the Coconuts.

7.00 Channel Four News. And weather prospects.

7.30 Right to Reply: Channel 4 viewers confront the programme makers, in the referee's chair: Gus Macdonald.

8.00 The Amateur Naturalist: Gerald and Lee Durrell in the African game reserve at Umfolozi, where Mr Durrell has a close encounter with a white rhino, and Mrs Durrell captures a golden mole and has a close-up view of life among the warthogs, zebras, rhinos and giraffes. Plus hints on how to improve your insect life photography.

8.30 A Week in Politics: with Peter Jay. Interview with James Prior, as the Northern Ireland Assembly comes under threat. And a progress report on how the Kinnock Opposition is shaping up.

9.15 Rockers Road: Black music showcases. Tonight's entertainment comes from Cleopatras, in Huddersfield. On stage: Progression All-Stars, Karen Williamson, Jab Jab, and Brasilia.

10.00 The Paul Hogan Show: with the Australian comedian and his escort of pretty girls.

10.30 Picture of Health: The Lady killers. The killers usually come in packets of twenty, and they are responsible for about 90 per cent of the annual 35,000 lung cancer deaths in England and Wales. The number of cigarettes smoked annually is higher for women than for men. Tonight: this sorry state of affairs is analysed.

11.20 What the Censor Saw: The Killing of Sister George (1968) Robert Aldrich's somewhat coarsened film version of Frank Marcus's stage play ran into censorship troubles principally because of a love-making sequence between the ageing actress in a popular television serial (Beryl Reid) and her young girl friend (Susannah York). The film's lack of subtlety becomes tiresome after a while, but there is compensation in the performances of Miss Reid and Miss York, and those of Coral Browne as the BBC producer who hastens Miss Reid's decline and fall. Ends at 1.45am.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary. 6.45 Prayer for the Day. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.50 Your Letters. 8.57 Weather.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs Sir Hugh Greene.
9.45 Feedback. Your views and comments about BBC radio and tv put to producers and management.
10.00 News; International Assignment. BBC correspondents review a contemporary issue.
10.30 Morning story: 'Mr Jefford's Garden' by Lisa Taylor. Read by David March. 10.45 Daily Service.
11.00 News; Travel; The 1,000 Days of John F. Kennedy. Second of two documentary programmes about the Kennedy presidency. Presented by Edmund Ions (r).
11.48 Natural Selection. Barry Paine reads from Curiosities of Natural History, by Francis Trevelyan Buckland.
12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer affairs.
12.27 Top of the Form. Selkirk High School v Durham School (r). 12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping.
2.00 News; Woman's Hour from Birmingham. Today's edition, from Birmingham is introduced by Marjorie Lofthouse. It includes the seventh instalment of A Tiger for Malgudi.
3.00 News; Sybil or 'The Two Nations' by Benjhamin Disraeli (2).†
4.00 News; Just After Four. Travelling abroad in the last century.
4.10 The Spirit of Kittyhawk. The story of some of the people who have made aviation history (2). Today: pilots at war. Presented by Ivan Randall.
4.40 Story Time: 'How Green Was My Valley' by Richard Llewellyn (10). Read by Gerald James.
5.00 News Magazine. 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather; Programme News.
6.00 The Six O'Clock News: Financial Report.
6.30 Going Places. The world of travel and transport.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week. Programme highlights with Margaret Howard.†
8.10 Profile. A personal portrait.
8.30 Any Questions? from Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex. With Sir Campbell Fraser, Len Murray, Harold Evans, and Delia [illegible].
9.15 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke.
9.30 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine. Tonight's edition is devoted to the 27th London Film Festival, which includes the "completed" version of the Judy Garland musical A Star is Born, and five "lost" films by Alfred Hitchcock.
10.00 The World Tonight: News.
10.35 Week Ending. A satirical review of the week's news.†
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: 'Sour Sweet' by Timothy Mo (10). Read by David Suchet.
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
11.45 John Ebdon in the BBC Sound Archives.
12.00 News.
12.10 Weather.
12.15 Shipping Forecast.

ENGLAND VHF as above except: 6.25-6.30am Weather, Travel. 10.45-12.00 For Schools. 1.55pm Listening Corner. 2.00-3.00 For Schools. 5.50-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00-12.00 Study on 4. 12.30-1.10 Schools Night-time Broadcasting.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert: part one. Mendelsshon (overture Ruy Blas), Bach (Concerto in D minor, BWV 1052: Gustav Leonhardt, harpsichord), Roussel (Joueurs de flute: Gunilla von Bahr, flute), Elgar (Sospiri, Op 70), arr Peter Maxwell Davies (Kinloch his Fantassie)†
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert: part two. Rossini (Tanti affetti in tal momento, from La donna del lago: Agnes Baltsa), Chopin (Introduction and polonaise brillante: Rostopovich), Schubert (Symphony No 1)†
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer: Telemann. The Concerto in E minor recorder and flute. And the Dramatic Cantata: Ino.†
10.00 Arnold Bax Centenary: Dennis Simons (violin) and Keith Swallow (piano) play the Violin Sonata No 1.†
10.40 Ulster Orchestra: Caesar Cui's suite miniature; Balakirev's Overture on three Russian themes; and Borodin's Petite Suite†
11.40 Poulenc and Britten Song-Cycles: Martyn Hill (tenor) accompanied by Graham Johnson perform Poulenc's Tel jour, telle nuit; and Britten's On This Island, Op 11.†
12.15 BBC Welsh SO: with John Lill (piano). Part one. Sibelius's Symphony No 1†
1.00 News.
1.05 Six Continents: foreign radio broadcasts monitored by the BBC.
1.20 BBC Welsh SO: concert. Part two. Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No 2; and Tchaikovsky's Italian Caprice, Op 45.†
2.15 Pro Arte Quintet, Zurich: Nielsen's Wind Quintet, Op 43; and Jolivet's Serenade.†
3.00 Haydn and Field: New Irish Chamber Orch, with John O'Conor, piano, play Haydn's Symph No 85 and Field's Piano Conc No 4.†
4.00 Edington Festival: The organist is Adam Gordon in this sequence recorded last August at Edington Priory.†
4.45 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: The theme of David Hoult's selection is children.†
6.30 Music for Guitar: recital by John Mills. All the works are by Napoleon Coste, They include La Vallee d'Ornans: Les Montagnards, Op 17; and the Fantasia on themes from Norma, Op 16.†
7.00 The Bach Cello Suites: This is the first of two Radio 3 programmes (the other one can be heard next Monday). Casals plays the Sarabande (Suite No 2 in D minor, BWV 1008), and Yo-Yo Ma plays the Suite No 3 in C, BWV 1009. Part one.†
7.30 BBC Symphony Orchestra at the Festival Hall: Part one. Dvorak's Te Deum: The White Dove. With soloists Elizabeth Connell, Patricia Payne, Kenneth Woolam and Willard White.†
8.10 Bach Cello Suites: Part two. Nikolaus Harnoncourt plays the Suite No 1 in G, BWV 1007.†
8.30 BBC Symph Orch: concert. Part two. Janacek's Glagolitic Mass.†
9.25 Third Opinion: with the economist Peter Oppenheimer and Sir Donald Maitland, former Permanent Secretary, Department of Energy.
10.10 Bach Cello Suites: Casals plays the Suite No 2 in D minor, BWV 1008.†
10.35 American Piano Music: Ursula Oppens plays Roger Sessions's Sonata No 1, and Elliott Carter's Night Fantasies.†
11.15 News. Until 11.18. VHF only: Open University. Into the Open (1).

Radio 2

News on the hour (except 8.00pm and 9.00), major bulletins 7.00am, 8.00, 1.00pm, 5.00 and 12.00 midnight, headlines 5.30am, 6.30, 7.30 (MF/MW). 5.00am Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 Music While You Work.† 12.30 Gloria Hunniford.† 2.02 Sports Desk. 2.30 Ed Stewart.† 3.02 Sports Desk. 4.00 David Hamilton.† 4.02, 5.30 Sports Desk. 6.00 John Dunn.† including 6.45 Sport and Classified results (mf only). 7.30 Barn Dance at the Radio 2 Ballroom, with The Greensleeves Band.† 8.15 Friday Night is Music Night from the Hippodrome, Golders Green, London.† 9.30 The Mike Sammes Singers (new series).† 9.57 Sports Desk. 10.00 It Sticks Out Half a Mile. A seaside saga starring John Le Mesurier, Ian Lavender, Bill Pertwee. 10.30 Brian Matthew presents Round Midnight direct from the Children in Need telethon TV studio (stereo from midnight). 1.00am Night Owls with Dave Gelly† 2.00-5.00 Liz Allen presents You and the Night and the Music†

Radio 1

News on the half-hour 6.30am-8.30pm, then at 10.00 and 12.00 midnight (MF/MW). 6.00am Adrian John. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Mike Smith, including 12.30 Newsbeat 2.00 Gary Davies 4.30 Select-a-disc with Janice Long – 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 5.45 Andy Peebles visiting sports personalities who join him live in the Children in Need TV studio. 9.00-12.00 The Friday Rock Show.† VHF Radios 1 and 2. 5.00am With Radio 2 10.00pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00am With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.30 Breakthrough. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 The English Air. 8.30 Modern English Poetry. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Album Time. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 10.30 Business Matters. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty Four Hours. 1.30 Radio Theatre. 2.15 Letterbox. 2.30 John Peel. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Science in Action. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Sarah and Company. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four hours. 8.15 Music Now. 9.45 Clinging to the Wreckage. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 The Thousand Days of John F Kennedy. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah and Company. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Classical Record Review. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 A Memorable Scene. 3.50 Recording of the Week. 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 Kings of Jazz. 5.45 The World Today.

All times in GMT

BBC 1 WALES, 12.57-1.00pm News of Wales 3.53-3.55 News of Wales 5.53 (Part of Sixty Minutes) Wales Today 1.15am News of Wales and weather; Close. SCOTLAND, 12.55-1.00pm The Scottish News 5.53 (Part of Sixty Minutes) Scotland: Sixty Minutes 9.25-9.40 Children in Need 9.40-10.10 Double Bill' Billie Joe Spears joins Bill McCue and Bill Torrance for music and dance American-style 10.10-10.15 Children in Need 10.15-10.45 Agenda 10.45 Jon, BBC 1, 1.15am Close. NORTHERN IRELAND, 12.57-1.00pm Northern Ireland News 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 5.53 (Part of Sixty Minutes) Scene Around Six 11.0-11.5 National News and weather; Northern-Ireland news headlines 1.15am Northern Ireland news headlines and weather; Close ENGLAND 5.53pm (Part of Sixty Minutes) 1.15am Close.

S4C Starts: 2.00pm Fienestri. 2.20 Stori Sbri. 2.35 Hyn O Fyd. 2.55 Spice of Life. 3.20 Book 4. 4.00 Anything we can do. 4.30 Countdown. 4.55 Lowri A'R Capten. 5.10 Ffranc Y Ffidil. 5.30 Bands of Gold. 6.25 The Addams Family. 6.55 Gair YN El Bryd. 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.30 Sion A Sian. 8.00 Pobol Y Cwm. 8.30 Pawb A'i Fys. 9.15 Paul Hogan Show. 9.45 Soap. 10.15 Film: Country Girls. Edna O'Brien story. 12.05am Our Lives. 12.45 Gair Yn El Bryd, Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Turnabout.* 1940 comedy. 5.15-5.45 Whose Baby? 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 10.30 Cross Question. 11.05 Darts. 11.50 Film: Murders in the Rue Morgue. 1.25am Feast for Advent, Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

CHANNEL As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Baffled. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55-7.00 What's on Where. 10.35 Benson. 11.00 Film: Sign It Death. 12.20am Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20 News. 1.30 Hear Here. 1.45-3.30 Film: Washington Mistress (Lucie Arnaz). 6.00-7.00 News. 10.30 Baretta. 11.30 News. 11.35 Film: Operation Cross Eagles, (Richard Conte) 1.15am Closedown.

HTV As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 News. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Too Many Crooks* (Terry Thomas). 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 News. 6.30-7.00 So What's Your Problem. 10.30 Press Call. 11.00 The Sweeney. 12.00 Benson. 12.30am Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 11.05am-11.20 About Wales. 6.00pm-7.00 Wales at Six. 10.30-11.00 Writers on our Time.

GRANADA As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00 Film: Hotel Sahara (David Tomlinson). 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Beverley Hillbillies.* 6.00-7.00 Weekend. 10.30 Newhart. 11.00 Film: Fleisch (Jutta Speidel). 12.55am Harvest Jazz Festival. 1.30 Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 9.25am-9.30 First Thing. 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Subway in the Sky (Van Johnson). 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Benson. 6.00-7.00 North Tonight. 10.30 Film: Devil's Rain (William Shatner). 12.10am News, Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Mouse That Roared (Peter Sellers). 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 Survival of the Fittest. 10.30 Your MP. 11.00 Mysteres of Edgar Wallace. 12.05 News, Closedown.

TVS As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20 News. 1.30 Afternoon Club. 1.35 About Britian. 2.05 Old Wives Tales. 2.10 Film: Tread Softley Stranger. 3.45 Sportsbreak. 3.50-4.00 Blunt Encounters. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.30-7.00 Friday Sportshow. 10.30 Just Wiliams. 11.00 Film: La Notte. 1.15am Company, Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 News and Lookaround. 2.00-3.30 Film: Big Job (Sidney James). 5.15-5.45 Silver Spoons. 6.00 News. 6.20-7.00 Weekend Lift-Off. 10.32 Film: Crucible of Terror. 12.10am Portrait of a Legend. 12.40am Chritian Calendar, Closedown.

ULSTER As London except: 9.25am-9.30 Day Ahead: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20 Lunchtime. 1.30 About Britain. 2.00 Film: Jetstorm (Harry Secombe). 3.30-4.00 Paint Along with Nancy. 5.15-5.45 Survival. 6.00 Good Evening, Ulster. 6.35 Festival Spot. 6.45-7.00 Advice. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Sportscast. 11.05 Film: Marx Brothers Go West. 12.30am News Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Turnabout*. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00-7.00 Calendar and Sport. 10.30 Calendar Special. 11.00 Film: Stand up Virgin Soldiers (Nigel Davenport). 12.45am Closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Image of Death. 3.30-4.00 One of the Boys. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 5.45 Scotland Today. 6.30 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Hear Here. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 Late Call. 11.05 Film: Appointment with a Killer. 12.20am Closedown.

TSW As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Battled (Susan Hampshire). 5.5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30-7.00 What's Ahead. 10.35 Benson. 11.00 Film: Sign it Death. 12.20am Postscript, Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN. † Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95; LBC 1152kHz/261m: VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

ENTERTAINMENTS

BARBICAN. 01-628 8795 cc 01-638 8891 (Mon-Sat 10am-8pm).
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
BARBICAN THEATRE. Ton't 7.30. tomor 2.00 & 7.30 THE TEMPEST (runs 2hrs 45min). MAYDAYS returns 29 Nov-1 Dec. "triumph, cannot be missed" Punch. Day seats £4 from 10am. THE PIT. Ton't 7.30, tomor 2.00 & 7.30 MOLIERE by Bulgakov (runs 2hrs). THE CUSTOM OF THE COUNTRY by Nicholas Wright returns 29 Nov "funny, genial & always surprising" S Times.

BUSH THEATRE 743 3388 TOPOKANA MARTYRS' DAY by Jonathan Falla. Evgs 8.0.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE WC2 01-379 5299 Eves 7.30, Mat Thur 2 30. Sat 5.00 & 8.00.
JANE LAPOTAIRE
'... Sensational' D. Exp
PETER BLAKE
'... Magnificent' D. Exp.
in
DEAR ANYONE
'Everything a smash-hit musical should have' D. Mail.
STUBBY KAYE
"Brings the house down. Times."
STEPHANIE VOSS
Group Sales 01-930 6123.

COTTESLOE (NT's small auditorium – low price tkts). Ton't 7.30. Tomor 2.30 & 7.30 The Market Theatre Company, Johannesburg, visiting the NT in MASTER HAROLD AND THE BOYS by Athol Fugard.

CRITERION S 930 3216 cc 379 6565 Grps 836 3962. Mon to Fri 8.30 Sat 5.30 & 8.30
THE TRIUMPHANT RETURN OF
WOZA ALBERT!
"SUPERLATIVE PERFORMANCES" Tms. "Rollicking humour, sharp satire ... stunningly original" Obs.
Nominated SWET 1983
COMEDY OF THE YEAR
LAST 3 WEEKS! – Ends 10 Dec

CRITERION. S 930 3216 CC 379 6565/930 9232 Grps 836 3962. The Theatre of Comedy Production JAMES BOLAM IAN OGILVY STRATFORD JOHNS in
RUN FOR YOUR WIFE
Written & directed by RAY COONEY
"A perfect example of British farce at its best" D Mail
Nominated SWET 1983
COMEDY OF THE YEAR
TRANSFERRING FROM SHAFTESBURY THEATRE ON 12 DEC

DOMINION, Tottenham Court Road. 01-580 9562/3. The Magic of Silent Hollywood! Thames Television, in association with the London Film Festival is proud to present A Tribute To Lillian Gish with two of her most memorable films. Broken Blossoms (1919) and The Wind MGM (1928) complete with live orchestra playing scores specially composed, arranged and conducted by Carl Davis. December 1st, 2nd, 3rd Broken Blossoms 8.00pm 1st Dec, 4.30 3rd Dec. The Wind 8.00pm 2nd Dec. 8.00pm 3rd Dec. Tickets £4, £6, £8. In person from the Dominion Theatre and the National Film Theatre, Southbank SE1. By post to the Thames Silents Box Office, Dominion Theatre. Please send cheque payable to Thames Silents and enclose SAE.

DONMAR WAREHOUSE 41 Earlham St. Covent Gdn. S CC 379 6565.
BERTICE READING
Musical SPELLBINDER Std. Buffet from 8pm SHOW AT 9pm. RECOMMENDED by Sunday Times.
LATE & LIVE
11pm Bertice Encores with guests £1 Band. Dancing. Food. Drink till 1am.

DOMINION, Tottenham Ct. Rd. 01-580 9562/3. 01-323 1576. Red Price Prevs from Dec 19. Opens Dec 21 for the Xmas & New Yr Season
WAYNE SLEEP WITH
A DASH OF CHRISTMAS
cc HOT LINES 01-636 8686. 01-930 9232
Group Sales 01-930 6123

DRILL HALL 16 Chenies St WC1 637 8270, cc 631 5107 CUT AND THRUST CABARET dev & dir by ROBIN ARCHER 'Polish, Passion and Pity' F. Times. Tonight & Sat 6pm & 9pm, Sun 6pm. MUST END SUNDAY.

DRURY LANE Theatre Royal CC 01-836 8108. Grp sales 01-930 6123. Eves 8pm, Fri & Sat 5pm & 8.30pm. SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MAT WED 21 Dec at 2.30.
"AMAZING ALL-AMERICAN COMPANY" D Tel.
BOB FOSSE'S
DANCIN'
"HIGH OCTANE DYNAMISM THAT COMES ACROSS THE FOOTLIGHTS" D.Mail
200 Balcony seats at £4 each retained for sale day of perf.

DUCHESS THEATRE S C.C. The Beagle Has Landed ...
A nomination for
MUSICAL OF THE YEAR
ACTOR OF THE YEAR –
Teddy Kemper
1983 SWET Awards
"An extraordinary achievement" Sunday Telegraph
SNOOPY
THE MUSICAL
Box office 01-836 8243
Credit card hot line 01-930 9232
Keith Prowse (no bkngfee) 01-636 8686
Group Sales 01-930 6123
Evgs 8.00pm.
Fri & Sat 6.00pm & 8.30pm
Seats available at Doors
NOW BOOKING TILL MARCH 3
Extra Christmas perfs 26 Dec. 4 & 8pm 27 Dec 8.00pm. 2 Jan. 6 & 8.30pm
"BEST MUSICAL" The Observer

DUKE OF YORKS 01-836 5122 cc 01-836 0641. Group sales 930 6123. Red. Price Prev Wed Dec 14 Opens Thurs Dec 15 at 7.0 Evgs 7.30 Mats wed & sats at 3.0
DONALD SINDEN / BERYL REID
MICHAEL DENISON / DULCIE GRAY
NICOLA PAGETT
CLIVE FRANCIS / HAROLD INNOCENT
and BILL FRASER
in JOHN BARTON'S production of
THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL
for a limited season.

FORTUNE 836 2238. CC hotline 930 9232. Grps 930 6123. Evgs 8.00. Mats (Children ½ price) Thur 3.00. Sat 4.30.
DENIS LAWSON
Nominated for SWET Award
ACTOR OF THE YEAR
IN A MUSICAL
"Really funny" Obs
MR CINDERS
Music by Vivian Ellis
"Packed with enchanting songs" Tms

GARRICK CC S 01-836 4601. Eves 8.00. Wed Mat 3.00. Sat 5.00 & 8.00
13th HYSTERICAL YEAR. LONGEST RUNNING COMEDY IN THE WORLD
NO SEX, PLEASE — WE'RE BRITISH
2 HOURS OF NON-STOP LAUGHTER
Directed by Allan Davis
Group Sales Box Office 01-930 6123
Credit Card Hotline 01-836 0641
OVER 5,000 FANTASTIC PERFS.

DUKE OF YORKS S CC 01-836 5122 CC only 836 0641. CC Hotline 01-930 9232 Tonight & Tomor 5.45 & 8.30.
"EXTREMELY FUNNY" S. Tel.
"PIERCING COMEDY" Times.
"COMPULSIVELY WATCHABLE" Sunday Express.
"A SHINING GEM" Daily Mail.
IAN OGILVY
ANGELA THORNE / STEPHANIE BEACHAM
JAMES LAURENSON in
HAPPY FAMILY
by GILES COOPER.
Directed by MARIA AITKEN.
LAST WEEK ENDS TOMORROW
MISS THE RUSH WITH OUR AFTER OFFICE MATINEE FRIDAY 5.45

GLOBE cc 01-437 1592.
Andrew Lloyd Webber presents the smash hit comedy of the season
DAISY PULLS IT OFF
by Denise Deegan
Directed by David Gilmore
"HILARIOUS" LBC
"FULL MARKS FOR DAISY" Std
"I'd be surprised if a more enjoyable evening than this came up this year" Financial Times
Eves 8.00 Mats Wed 3.00 Sat 5.00
Group Sales 930 6123.
"THIS IS AN ABSOLUTE HOOT AND A SCREAM" S Times.

GREENWICH THEATRE. 01-858 7755. Evenings 7.45. Mats. Sat. 2.30. FRANCIS A New Play by JULIAN MITCHELL. "A beautiful play". D. Tel. "Kenneth Branagh's performance is a scorcher". City Limits.

CHURCHILL Bromley (18 mins Victoria) 460 6677 Evgs Mon-Fri 7.45 Sats 8pm DONALD SINDEN, BERYL REID, MICHAEL DENISON, DULCIE GRAY, NICOLA PAGETT, CLIVE FRANCIS, HAROLD INNOCENT and BILL FRASER in JOHN BARTON'S production of THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL. Carvery Restaurant 460 3022.

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL 930 9832. Group Sales 01-930 6123.
OMAR SHARIF
JUDY CAMPBELL / JOHN MOFFATT
DEBBIE ARNOLD
in
THE SLEEPING PRINCE
by TERENCE RATTIGAN
Evgs Mon-Sat 7.30 Mats Weds 2.30 Sats 3.00. FOR A LIMITED SEASON.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE 930 6606/7 cc 930 4025/6 Evgs Mon-Sat 7.30. Mats Weds & Sats 2.30. Dazzling – there's never been a musical like it
BUGSY MALONE on Stage
Group Sales 01-930 6123. Credit Card Hotline 01-930 9232
CHILDREN'S PRICES AT MOST PERFS.
Book your seats at any Keith Prowse branch – no booking fee.

LONDON PALLADIUM 01-437 7373 Eves 7.30 Mat Wed & Sat 2.45
MATINEE TOMORROW 2.45.
SEATS AVAILABLE AT DOORS
FIRST EVER STAGE PRODUCTION
TOMMY STEELE in
SINGIN' IN THE RAIN
with ROY CASTLE
"SINGIN' IN THE RAIN HAS BROUGHT THE BIG LAVISH MUSICAL BACK TO THE WEST END WITH A VENGEANCE. LAVISH SETS, SUPERB HOLLYWOOD COSTUMES, GLITTERING BUSBY BERKELEY DANCE ROUTINES." Daily Express.
"A TRIUMPH FOR STEELE." S.Tel.
CREDIT CARD HOTLINES: TEL. 01-437 7373 or 01-437 2055.
4 SPECIAL SAT PERFS ON CHRISTMAS EVE & NEW YEAR'S EVE DEC 24 & 31 at 2.45 & 7.30
SEATS FOR THESE PERFS AVAILABLE NOW.

KINGS HEAD 226 1916. Prevs Dec 7. Show 8. WEDLOCK/DEADLOCK – a Restoration Comedy with songs.

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH S CC 741 2311. ENDS TOMOR. Ton't 7.45. Tomor 4.00 & 7.45 Vanbrugh's THE RELAPSE. From 8 Dec ABBACADABRA with Elaine Paige, B. A. Robertson, Finola Hughes, Michael Praed, Sylvester McCoy & Phil Daniels. LYRIC STUDIO: Eves 8pm SHARED EXPERIENCE. Ton't, Mon & Wed SUCCESSFUL STRATEGIES. Tmor, Tues & Thurs FALSE ADMISSIONS.

LYRIC THEATRE Shaftesbury Avenue 437 3686 S cc. Eves 7.30, Wed Mat 3.00, Sat 5.00 & 8.15.
Society of West End Theatre Awards
FOUR NOMINATIONS
Actor of the Year in a new play
MICHAEL WILLIAMS
Actress of the Year in a new play
JUDI DENCH
Actress of the Year in a supporting role
BARBARA LEIGH-HUNT and
PLAY OF THE YEAR
JUDI DENCH / MICHAEL WILLIAMS
RICHARD VERNON / BARBARA LEIGH-HUNT
PACK OF LIES
by Hugh Whitemore
Directed by Clifford Williams
"PACK OF LIES IS THE WEST END AT ITS BEST", Spectator.

LYTTELTON (NT's proscenium stage). Ton't 7.45, Tomor 3.00 & 7.45 A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM by Shakespeare (seats include cushions on stage at £1.50).

MAYFAIR S CC 629 3036. Mon-Thur 8. Fri & Sat 5.40 & 8.10. Group 930 6123
RICHARD TODD
ERIC LANDER, VIRGINIA STRIDE in
THE BUSINESS OF MURDER
"The best thriller for years" S.Mir. "An unabashed winner" S.Exp "A thriller that achieves it all. Sensational!" Times. "The most ingenious mystery to have appeared in a decade. A play to be seen". Daily Mail.
THIRD GREAT YEAR
OVER 1,000 PERFORMANCES

MAYFAIR 01-629 3037
From Dec 19-Jan 7 – Twice daily 2.0, 4.0 Wed. Sats 10.30, 2.0 and 4.0
SOOTY'S CHRISTMAS SHOW

NEW LONDON cc Drury Lane WC2 01-405 0072 or 01-404 4079. Evgs 7.45 Tues & Sat 3.0 & 7.45.
THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER/ T. S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD WINNING MUSICAL
CATS
Group Bookings 01-405 1567 or 01-930 6123 (Apply daily to Box Office for returns, LATECOMERS NOT ADMIT-TED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION, PLEASE BE PROMPT.)
Bars open 6.45pm.
NEW BOOKING PERIOD NOW OPEN TILL AUG '84
THE LONGER YOU WAIT THE LONGER YOU'LL WAIT

OLD VIC 928 7616. cc 261 1821 Eves 7.30, Wed Mat 2.30, Sat 4.00 & 7.45
"THE WITTIEST & FUNNIEST MUSICAL I'VE SEEN IN DECADES" Derek Jewell
TIM RICE & STEPHEN OLIVER'S
"Magical minstrel show" Mail on Sun.
BLONDEL
starring Paul Nicholas
"GLITTERING & ENTERTAINING" D. Telegraph.
"A big success and deservedly so" Music Week
"THE MOST INVIGORATING MUSICAL IN YEARS" D. Express
RUN EXTENDED!
Until 14 January, 1984.
See Six hit shows (inc Blondel) for only £10! Subscription bkg still open.

NATIONAL THEATRE. S. 928 2252. FOR REPERTOIRE SEE SEPARATE ENTRIES UNDER OLIVIER/ LYTTELTON/COTTESLOE. Excellent cheap seats day of perf all 3 theatres. Also standby from 10 a.m. on day of perf. Car park. Restaurant 928 2033. Credit card bkgs 928 5933.
FULL REPERTOIRE NOW BOOKING TO END JANUARY
TOURS OF THE BUILDING (inc backstage) £1.50. Inf. 633 0880.

OLIVIER (NT's open stage) Ton't 7.15. Tomor 2.00 & 7.15 TALES FROM HOLLYWOOD by Christopher Hampton. Press Night Thurs 1 Dec premiere of JEAN SEBERG the musical drama by Marvin Hamlisch, Adler, and Barry. Ton't 5.45 Wordsworth 45 mins platform perf all tkts £1.50.

PALACE 437 6854 cc 437 8327
Now booking through 1983
"Andrew Lloyd Webber's LATEST TRIUMPH" D Exp.
SONG AND DANCE
Starring LIZ ROBERTSON in TELL ME ON A SUNDAY and GRAHAM FLETCHER in VARIATIONS.
"An explosion of magic. Superb stuff. Run to it" Sunday Times.
Eves 8.0, Sat 5.45 & 8.30. Some good seats still available most perfs.
Group sales 437 6834 or 930 6123.
SECOND GREAT YEAR

PICCADILLY. Open from 7.00pm to 2.00am. COCKTAILS – SUPPER – DANCING – MIDNIGHT CABARET.
Nightly at 9pm
A CABARET MUSICAL
"Y"
Starring Arturo Brachetti
Nominated the MOST PROMISING NEWCOMER English Tourist Board Award SWET 1983
Directed by Jean Marie Riviere
"A REMARKABLE NIGHT OUT" Gdn.
"TREMENDOUS SPECTACLE. TREMENDOUS FUN" BBC
AN EVENING FROM £3.50
Reservations 437 4506. Credit cards 379 6565/930 9232. Grps 836 3962.
BOOK YOUR CHRISTMAS PARTIES NOW!

PICCADILLY. Entrance from 11pm £5. Licensed until 3am. Music, Dancing, MIDNIGHT CABARET.
CLEM CURTIS &
THE FOUNDATIONS.
Supper available.

PRINCE EDWARD. Tel 01-437 6877 Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's
EVITA
Directed by Harold Prince. Evgs. 8.0. Mats Thurs & Sat at 3.0. Evg. perfs end 10.15. C.C. Hotline 439 8499. Group Sales 930 6123 or Box Office.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE 01-930 8681 cc 01-930 0844 Credit card hotline 930 9232. Grp Sales 01-930 6123. Previewing from Dec 23.
DANNY LA RUE
Sensational return to the West End in a stunning New Production of
HELLO, DOLLY!
with
LIONEL JEFFRIES

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE. 01-930 8681 cc 01-930 0844. Grp Sales 01-930 6123.
PAUL DANIELS
"COMIC AND GOOD FUN." Gdn.
"UNDOUBTED SUCCESS ... OUTSTANDING PERFORMER." S. Tel.
Evgs Mon-Thurs 7.30. Fri and Sat 6.00 & 8.15. Children & OAPs £4 any ticket.
LAST 3 WEEKS.

QUEENS cc 01-734 1166. 439 3849/4031. Group Sales 01-930 6123.
PENELOPE KEITH
"A dazzling comic performance" Gdn. in
HAY FEVER
by
NOEL COWARD
Evgs Mon-Fri 7.30 Mats Weds 3.0. Sats 5.0 & 8.15. Booking until April 1984.

RAYMOND REVUEBAR cc 734 1593. Mon-Sat 7 p.m., 9 p.m., 11 p.m. Paul Raymond presents THE FESTIVAL OF EROTICA. Now! New acts. New thrills. New sensations for this our SILVER JUBILEE 1958-1983.

ROYAL COURT S CC 730 1745 THE GRASS WIDOW by Snoo Wilson. With Ron Cook. Alan Rickman. Lesley Udwin. Tracey Ullman. "explosive" Std. "extra-ordinary" D Tel. "terrific" S. Times. Evgs 8pm Sat Mat 4pm Mon & Sat Mat £2.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE UPSTAIRS 730 2554. Foco Novo SLEEPING POLICEMEN by Howard Brenton and Tunde Ikoli. Evgs 7.30.

SAVOY. Box Office 01-836 8888 Credit Cards only 01-836 0641.
Evgs 7.45. Wed 3.0. Sat 5.0 & 8.30.
BEST COMEDY OF YEAR.
Standard AND Swet Awards
BENJAMIN WHITROW
PHYLLIDA LAW / ROBERT FLEMYNG
JOHN QUAYLE
GABRIELLE DRAKE / GLYN GRAIN
NOISES OFF
MICHAEL FRAYN'S NEW COMEDY directed by MICHAEL BLAKEMORE.
"THE FUNNIEST PLAY I HAVE EVER SEEN IN THE WEST END" Times.

SHAFTESBURY Shaftesbury Avenue
THEATRE OF COMEDY
"A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF BRITISH FARCE AT ITS BEST" D Mail
ERIC SYKES, TERRY SCOTT in
From November 28
James Bolam & Ian Ogilvy
Stratford Johns, Carol Hawkins
RUN FOR YOUR WIFE!
NOMINATED COMEDY OF THE YEAR 1983 SWET AWARDS
Written and Directed by RAY COONEY.
Evgs. 8.0, Mats Wed 3.0, Sat 5.30 and 8.30. POPULAR PRICES MON-THURS, MATS WED £1 to £5. Box Office 01-836 6596 or 01-836 4255. Credit card hotline 01-930 9232 (5 lines) Group Sales 01-930 6123.

SHAFTESBURY, Shaftesbury Ave. THEATRE OF COMEDY COMPANY
Family Christmas Pantomime
OPENING DECEMBER 15
(Royal Gala Performance Dec 20)
ALADDIN
Richard O'SULLIVAN Jill GASCOINE
Derek GRIFFITHS
Roy KINNEAR Lynsey DE PAUL
Tommy TRINDER
Edmund HOCKRIDGE Derek ROYLE
David JANSON
Tudor DAVIES & Doreen WELLS in
ALADDIN
NOW BOOKING LIMITED SEASON
HURRY! HURRY! HURRY!
Some perfs already sold out
ALADDIN
Prices: £8.50, £7.50, £6.00, £4.50. Box Office 01-836 6596 or 01-836 4255. Credit Card Hotline 01-930 9232. Group Sales 01-930 6123.

STRAND WC2 01-836 2660/4143. Credit Cards only 01-836 0641. Evgs 7.30, Wed 2.30, Sat 5.0 & 8.30
BEST PLAY OF THE YEAR
Standard Drama Award and Plays and Players London Critics Award
Susan Penhaligon Paul Shelley
Judy Geeson Richard Warwick
in TOM STOPPARD'S new play
THE REAL THING
Directed by Peter Wood

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON Royal Shakespeare Theatre (0789) 295623. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY in THE COMEDY OF ERRORS "... inspired lunacy .. full of glorious belly laughs" D. Mail. Tonight. Sat. Mon. Tue. Wed 7.30. Sat 1.30. For special meal/theatre deals and hotel stopover ring 0789 67262.

ST. MARTIN'S. 836 1443. Special CC No 930 9232 Evgs 8.00. Tues 2.45. Sats (& Dec 26) 5.00 & 8.00
AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
THE MOUSETRAP
32nd YEAR
Sorry, no reduced prices from any source, but seats bookable from £3.00

VAUDEVILLE WC2 836 9988 cc 836 0641. Group Sales 930 6123
"PERFECT CRIME THRILLER"
Mirror
HAYLEY MILLS
SIMON WARD
& PETER ADAMSON in
DIAL M FOR MURDER
by Frederick Knott.
Directed by Allan Davis
"AS MUCH FUN AS EVER".
Times
Evgs 8.00 Mats Weds 2.45 Sats 5.00.

VICTORIA PALACE S 834 1317 CC 930 9232. Eve 7.30. Thur & Sat 3. Grp 930 6123
YOU HAVE ONLY 2 MORE WEEKS TO EXPERIENCE
ROBIN COUSINS
& his Co of world skate superstars
ELECTRIC ICE
"IT'S LIKE 'A CHORUS LINE' ON ICE THE MOST THRILLING SHOW IN LONDON" BBC
"Had the audience on their feet" D. Mail.
"Innovative, imaginative, bold and exciting" D.Tel
LAST 2 WEEKS OFFER. NO BOOKING FEE AT KEITH PROWSE BRANCHES.

VICTORIA PALACE. 828 4735. Opens December 22. The Fun Packed Holiday Musical For All The Family
HI-DE-HI
With TV's star cast. Prevs Dec 19, 20, 21. Box office open, prices £3, £7.50.

WESTMINSTER Palace St. SW1. 01 834 0283. CC 01-836 0641.
For the 24th Consecutive Christmas David Conville presents the famous Children's Musical
TOAD OF TOAD HALL.
12 Dec-7 Jan. 1.45pm & 4.45pm. Seats £6.50, £5.50, £4.50.

WYNDHAM'S S 836 3028 cc 379 6565/930 9232. Grps 836 3962. Eves 8.15. Sat 5.00 & 8.30.
SIR JOHN MILLS
"What a night. What a Knight!" D. Ml.
ANTHONY BATE CONNIE BOOTH and GLYN HOUSTON in
LITTLE LIES
"THE BEST FUN TO BE HAD" Daily Tel. "MADHOUSE" Times.

YOUNG VIC (Waterloo) 928 6363. All seats £2.50. Ton't 7.30 THE CARETAKER. Tmor 2.30 & 8.00 THE DUENNA. FINAL PERFS!

CINEMAS

ACADEMY 1. 437 2981 Isabelle Huppert in AT FIRST SIGHT (15). at 2.00 (not Sun). 4.10, 6.25, 8.45.

ACADEMY 2. 437 5129. Last week! Rohmer's prize-winning PAULINE AT THE BEACH (15) Progs 2.35 (not Sun). 4.40, 6.45, 8.50.

ACADEMY 3. 437 8819. Simone Signoret in L'ETOILE DU NORD (PG) at 4.00, 6.15, 8.35.

CAMDEN PLAZA 485 2443. opp Camden Town Tube. Paradjanov's THE COLOUR OF POMEGRANATES (U) Progs 2.20, 4.30, 6.40, 8.55. ENDS Wed 30 Nov. From Thu 1 Dec Wajda's DANTON (PG).

CHELSEA CINEMA 351 3742 (formerly Odeon) 206 Kings Road, SW3 (Sloane Sq tube). Francois Truffaut's FINALLY, SUNDAY! (PG) Starring FANNY ARDANT. Progs 1.45, 4.00, 6.20, 8.45. Lic'd Bar. Seats Bookable Last Perf. Access/Visa.

CURZON, Curzon St. W1. 499 3737. Jeremy Irons, Ben Kingsley, Patricia Hodge "Are all superb" F. Times in Harold Pinter's BETRAYAL (15) "a film not to be missed" Barry Norman Film 83. Progs at 2.00 (not Sun). 4.10, 6.20, 8.40.

GATE BLOOMSBURY, 1 & 2. 837 8402/1177. Russell Sq Tube. 1: ZELIG (PG) 1.55 (Sat & Sun only). 3.25, 4.55, 6.25, 8.00, 9.35. Adv. tkts. N.C.P. parking 50p anytime Sat & Sun. Mon-Fri after 6pm 2: THE LEOPARD (PG) 1.00 (Sat & Sun only). 4.20, 7.45. Lic'd Bar. Access/Visa.

GATE MAYFAIR 493 2031. MAYFAIR HOTEL Green Pk Tb. Last 7 days FORBIDDEN RELATIONS (18). 5.00, 7.00, 9.00. Starts Fri Scorsese's THE KING OF COMEDY (PG).

GATE NOTTING HILL 221 0220/ 727 5750. Last 6 days. Ozu's TOKYO STORY (U). 3.45, 6.15, 8.45. L.N. 11.15pm. Sun only at 1pm PRIMATE (18). Starts Thurs. Judy Garland, James Mason in A STAR IS BORN (U). Adv tkts on sale now.

LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE (930 5252). CUJO (18). Sep. progs Wks 1.45, 4.05, 6.25, 8.50. Sep progs Sun 4.05, 6.25, 8.50. Late Night Show Fri & Sat 11.45 pm. No Advance Booking.

LUMIERE 836 0691 St Martin's Lane WC2 (Leicester Sq Tube). Andrei Tarkovsky's Prizewinning film NOSTALGIA (15). Film at 1.20, 3.45, 6.10, 8.40. Seat bookable last perf. Access/Visa.

MINEMA 45 KNIGHTSBRIDGE 235 4225/6. LITTLE IDA (PG) (subtitles) Progs. daily: 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00. MUST END WED. FROM THURS. 1 DEC. BRITISH PREMIERE OF BIDDY (U).

ODEON HAYMARKET (930 2738) LA TRAVIATA (U). Sep. progs. daily 1.45, 5.35, 8.28. ALL SEATS BOOKABLE IN ADVANCE. TELEPHONE BOOKINGS WITH ACCESS AND VISA WELCOME.

ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE (930 6111). FOR INFO. 930 4250, 4259. WALT DISNEY'S THE JUNGLE BOOK (U)/MICKEY'S CHRISTMAS CAROL (U). Sep. progs. Doors open dly 2.00, 5.00, 8.00. Advance Booking for 8.00 prog Mon-Fri and all progs Sat & Sun by post or at Box Office. Access and Visa accepted for advance booking only.

ODEON MARBLE ARCH W2 (723 2011) OCTOPUSSY (PG). Sep. Progs. Doors open wks 1.25, 4.25, 7.25. Sun 4.25, 7.25. Advance booking for 7.25 programme Friday, Saturday and Sundays only. Box office open daily Mon-Sat 1.00pm-8.00pm. Sun. 4.25pm-8.00pm. Reduced prices for children. Credit card booking 724 1160.

SCREEN ON ISLINGTON GREEN Tel 226 3520
WOODY ALLEN
ZELIG (PG)
2.40, 4.20, 6.00, 7.40, 9.20. Advance tickets for last 2 eve perfs available from box office.

SCREEN ON THE HILL 435 3366. (Belsize Park Tube). "A Triumph" – Variety. Noni Hazlehurst – winner Best Actress Award. MONKEY GRIP (18) 3.00, 5.00, 7.10, 9.00. Lic bar/no smoking. Club Show. Insp membership.

WARNER WEST END LEIC. SQ. 439 0791. Richard Attenborough's Film GANDHI (PG). Doors 2.00, 6.45pm. No Advance Booking.

EXHIBITIONS

"PRINCE ALBERT - his life and work. Royal College of Art. Daily 10-5.30. Wednesdays 10-8.

YOUNG BLOOD. Open today 10-7. Adm £3, £2 after 4.00. Art Gallery, Barbican Centre, EC2. 638 4141.

ART GALLERIES

ALPINE GALLERY, 74 South Audley St, W1. RIDLEY ART SOCIETY. Exhibitions of Paintings, Sculptures, etc. 21-26 November. 10-5. Sat 10-2.

BANKSIDE GALLERY, 48 Hopton St. Blackfriars, London SE1 9JH. Tel: 01-928 7521. Autumn Exhibition of Contemporary prints by the Royal Society of Painter-Etchers and Engravers with La Jeune Gravure Contemporaine from France. 26 Oct-27 Nov. Tues-Sat 10-5, Sun 2-6. Closed Mons. Adm 50p.

BROWSE & DARBY. 19 Cork Street. W1. 01-734 7984. Paul Maze (1887 1979).

CHRISTOPHER WOOD GALLERY 15 Motcombe St. Belgravia, London SW1. 01-235 9141. VICTORIAN FANFARE. Exhibition of important Victorian paintings. Wkdys 9.30-5.30. Sat 10-1pm.

CRAFTS COUNCIL GALLERY, 12 Waterloo Place, Lower Regent St. London SW1. Tel 01 930 4811. Paper as image: New Works in Paper. (An Arts Council Exhibition.) Until 24 Dec. Tue – Sat 10-5; Sun 2-5; closed Mon.

GARTON & COOKE. 9 Lancashire Court. New Bond Street. London W1. 493 2820. Harry Holland. until December 16.

LEFEVRE GALLERY 30 Bruton Street, W.1. 01-493 1572. Important XIX and XX century works of art on view. November 23-December 21. Mon-Fri: 10-5 and Sats: 10-12.30.

LEFEVRE GALLERY, 30 Bruton St., W1. 01-493 1572/3. Contemporary paintings on view. Mon-Fri 10-5 and Sats 10-12.45.

LEGER, 13 Old Bond St. London, W1. THE ENGLISH CONVERSATION PIECE Mon-Fri.

MACKINNON & STRACHEY 17 Savile Row, W1. 01-734 6911. Exhibition of 19th century English and French Watercolours Mon - Fri 10-5.30.

MARLBOROUGH, 6 Albemarle St. W1. John Piper – Romantic Places. until 14 January, 1984. Mon-Fri 10-5.30. Sat 10-12.30. Tel. 01-629 5161.

MORTON MORRIS & CO. 32, Bury St. SW1. 01-930 2825. Loan Exhibition of Early English Drawings from the Ashmolean Museum, until 2 Dec.

NATIONAL GALLERY, Trafalgar Sq. WC2. ACQUISITION IN FOCUS: Christ taking leave of his mother by Altdorfer. Until 8 Jan. Wkdys 10-6. Suns 2-6. Adm Free. Recorded information: 01-839 3526.

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY, St Martin's Place, London WC2. 01-930 1552. WILLIAM DOBSON 1611-46. The Royalists at War. Until Jan 8. Adm £1. POLITE SOCIETY: ARTHUR DEVIS 1712-87. Until Jan 29. Adm free. Mon-Fri 10-5, Sats 10-6. Sun 2-6.

NEWMAN & COOLING LTD.
39 Albemarle Street. London W1X 4QJ. Tel: 01-629 8224 & 01-930 6068. Monday to Friday, 10am to 5pm.
AN OPENING EXHIBITION OF OIL PAINTINGS

PARKIN GALLERY 11 Motcomb St., SW1. 01-235 8144. Sickert & His Printmaker Friends. Till 11 Dec.

BRITISH LIBRARY, Gt Russell St. WC1. THE ENGLISH PROVINCIAL PRINTER 1700-1800. Until 29th Jan. THE MIRROR OF THE WORLD: antiquarian maps. Until 31 Dec. Wkdys 10-5. Suns 2.30-6.00. Adm. free.

PIAZZOTTA STUDIO. JAMES BUTLER, R.A. Exhibition of sculpture. 24 Nov-22 Dec. Wkdys 10-6. Sats 10-2. 22 Cathcart Rd. SW10. 01-352 7495.

ROYAL ACADEMY, Burlington House, Piccadilly. Open 10-6 daily THE GENIUS OF VENICE 1500-1600 until 11 March (closed 24/25 Dec.) Adm. £3.50. Suns. until 1.45 and concessionary rate £2.

SPINK GALLERY, 5 King St. St James's S.W.1. Autumn Catalogue of English Watercolours, Drawings & Prints. Until 30th November. Mon-Fri 9.30-5.30.

WARWICK ARTS TRUST, 33 Warwick Sq. London SW1. "Painting 1983" recent work by younger British artists until Dec 17th. Mon-Fri 10 to 5.30pm. Sats 10 to 1pm.

WILLIAM DRUMMOND at Bury Street Gallery. 11 Bury Street, St James's. Christmas Exhibition of 200 watercolours for Christmas presents.

Top earnings up 10 times faster than average pay

The real take-home pay of Britain's big earners has grown 10 times as fast as that of the average worker, according to figures from the treasury yesterday.

A married man with two children earning £80,000 a year has seen his real take-home pay grow by 54 per cent since 1978/9, while a similar man on average earnings of about £8,000 has received a boost of just 5.7 per cent.

For a single man, the gap is even wider. The £80,000-a-year earner has received a 57.9 per cent real increase, compared with 5.4 per cent for the average earner.

The figures take account of tax, National Insurance deductions, and increases in prices and earnings in the last six years. They illustrate that, while almost every earner has received a boost to real take-home pay, the increase has been far greater for high earners.

For a married man with two children, the increase over the six years has been 4.8 per cent for those earning two thirds of average earnings, 5.7 per cent for those on average earnings, 22 per cent for those on five times the average, and 53.9 per cent for those on 10 times the average.

The figures are contained in a written Commons reply from the Treasury, to a question from Mr Jeff Rooker, Labour MP for Birmingham Perry Barr.

The main reason why the high earners have done so well is a dramatic drop in the tax burden on them, the result of the first main budget by the then Chancellor, Sir Geoffrey Howe.

A married man with two children and earning two thirds the national average saw taxes and other deductions take 12 per cent of gross income in 1978-79. In the present tax year he will pay 14.2 per cent.

The same family man on average earnings of about £8,000 a year paid 21.2 per cent in taxes in 1978-79 but now pays 22.5 per cent. By contrast those on above average earnings have seen their tax bills drop.

A similar family man earning about £40,000 a year – five times the national average – had tax deductions amounting to 49.2 per cent in 1978-79. This was down to 42.3 per cent in 1983-84. And a man on 10 times the average (£80,000) has seen his tax bill fall from 65.9 per cent to 51.2 per cent in six years.

Mr Rooker said yesterday: "These figures confirm that the massive increase in taxation, including national insurance under this Government has fallen on wage earners on average earnings and less.

All-party talks offered on Ulster security

Continued from page 1

He says that the invitation has gone to all constitutional parties, whether they are taking part in the Assembly or not, and that it is not tied to involvement with the Assembly.

He says: "It is separate from that, it is a necessary step given the circumstances of the last few days."

Mr Prior makes clear that Sir John Hermon, the chief constable, and Lieutenant-General Sir Robert Richardson, the GOC, Northern Ireland, would attend the talks.

Mr Molyneaux described Mr Prior's invitation as a move in the right direction, although he made clear that there was unlikely to be early reconsideration of the decision to boycott the Assembly.

The attendance of the chief constable and the GOC would be an advance,

Andropov hits back with sea missiles threat

Continued from page 1

peoples and the whole of mankind".

Diplomats said clarification of Soviet counter-measures could be expected after a meeting of Warsaw pact defence ministers in Sofia, in the second half of December. The meeting was announced yesterday.

● SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA: President Reagan expressed dismay yesterday at Mr Andropov's statement (AFP reports). "We can only be dismayed at this Soviet statement," the President said.

"It is as sharp variance with the stated wish of the Soviet Union that an agreement be negotiated. We are determined to renew our efforts to entirely do away with the land-based intermediate range nuclear missile systems. We continue to seek negotiations in good faith."

Letters, page 15

Saying it with flowers



Flower time: A garlanded Prince and Princess of Wales at the Waltham Forest Asian centre, Walthamstow, east London, which they opened yesterday. Below, young dancers offer trays of flowers.



Howe's EEC optimism doubted

By Anthony Bevins
Political Correspondent

A Cabinet source last night predicted a long-term impasse over the European Community budget and the problems of the Common Agriculture Policy – in direct conflict with the public optimism which has been expressed by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary.

The flat contradiction, which will add to the growing impression of Cabinet disarray, was based on the view that as the Government had no intention of giving anything away on an increase in own-resource Community contributions, Market partners would refuse to deliver any concessions to meet British complaints on the budget or the agricultural policy.

Ministers have apparently seen no indication of a build-up for next month's Athens summit, and one source last night described the Whitehall preparation as indifferent.

But beyond Athens, it was not felt that there would be any solution to the long-standing crisis next year. It was said that this was not pessimism, but people would be deceiving themselves if they felt that the other Community members were showing any goodwill in resolving th financial difficulties on British terms.

Those remarks, made privately, contrast starkly with an interview given by Sir Geoffrey to *Le Monde* on October 18.

Sir Geoffrey said then that everybody was responding to the budgetary and agricultural policy problems "in a very practical and urgent fashion". He added: "I believe a solution is possible at Athens".

But he also said: "We in Britain are prepared to consider the proposals made by some of our partners for an increase in own resources, provided there is a proper solution to the budget problem and provided there is a strict binding financial guideline covering the cost of the CAP".

Other ministers feel that there can be no commitment on that point, if only because, as the Government would not concede, consideration would be an empty promise.

The aggression of such remarks have to be read against the background of a Commons debate next week, and the possibility that Tory backbench hardliners might rebel at the slightest whiff of concession.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

A poignant glimpse of what might have been

With Mrs Thatcher immured at the Commonwealth conference in New Delhi, Mr John Biffen, the Leader of the House, deputised at Prime Minister's questions yesterday.

More poignant was the substitute on the Opposition side. Mr Neil Kinnock the Leader of the Opposition, was away at some socialist gathering in Brussels. Mr Roy Hattersley deputised for him in some entertaining exchanges with Mr Biffen.

This subtitution on the Opposition side was a reminder of what might have been. It was almost two months to the day since the assassination of Mr Hattersley at Brighton. Like most members of my generation, I can remember exactly where I was and what I was doing at that terrible moment.

It being a Sunday evening, most of the rest of the generation was in the pub or drunk elsewhere. By chance I had chosen that day to follow Mr Hattersley on his fatal trip to Brighton, a town he always detested, and was getting ready to write a load of old nonsense.

Suddenly, someone shouted out that Mr Hattersley had been hit by a high velocity Transport and General Workers' Union block vote. A few minutes later came confirmation that he was beaten.

Not long after that the world learned who had done it: a Welsh drifter, with a grudge against society, named Neil Kinnock. Ever since then there has been endless speculation that Mr Kinnock did not act alone, that he was part of a left-wing conspiracy possibly organised from Cuba. Certainly, it suited Cuba's interests to have Mr Kinnock leading the British Labour Party.

But what did it matter who did it? The only truth that mattered that day in October was that Roy was gone. For the rest of us, hope went that day too. It is not his achievements that form the basis of the Hattersley legend. For his contribution to mankind had only just begun.

Having been elected in 1964, he had been in Parliament for a mere 19 fleeting years. No, what was important about him was his promise. He was always making promises – to colleagues, to voters during general elections.

And then there was the Hattersley style. Revisionists have mocked it and denied that it was accompanied by any substance. What they cannot deny is his wit, his physical grace, his campaign manager Mr Gerald Kaufman, his command of understatement and indeed his command of overstatement.

He was essayist, orator, journalist, Sheffield Wednesday supporter. He was perhaps the last Western leader who could find the phrase to move vast crowds. Who will ever forget his inspired cry: *"Ich bin eine Yorkshiremann!"*

Hattersley was accused of cultivating the media. Certainly there was no shortage of journalists prepared to describe him as "able," "capable," "moderate", and the author of "a good read every Saturday in *The Guardian*."

Once it became fashionable to debunk the Hattersley myth, they all denied they ever wrote things like that. But there was never any reluctance on the part of journalists to experience the glamour of a weekend at the Hattersley family compound in Sheffield.

And for a few searing moments yesterday we experienced what Mr Hattersley would have been like had he been spared. He asked Mr Biffen about "the sophisticated satellite" which, according to a Number 10 briefing, is keeping the Prime Minister in touch with every nuance of Government policy.

Then, in a reference to the extremely wet speech made the other day by Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy, came a typical touch straight out of the Hattersley years. "Was it used to clear the speech by Secretary for Energy on Tuesday?"

Mr Biffen, a worthy rival, had clearly expected trouble over that Walker speech. For he had come armed with a selective quotation from it. This was the one dry passage: a bit about the inadequacy of the western response to the Soviet military build-up.

"He spoke with a voice which finds fewer and fewer echoes on Labour benches," said Mr Biffen. Mr Hattersley immediately shot back with a characteristically understated remark about a collective cabinet responsibility. "Does each cabinet minister speak for himself or does each cabinet minister speak for the Government?" he asked, stylishly.

It was difficult to believe that this man was no longer with us.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, the 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment and the Royal Regiment of Wales (24/41st Foot) visits Headquarters, the Prince of Wales's Division at Lichfield, Staffordshire, 10.05: and later accompanied by the Princess of Wales, he opens the British Racing School at Snailwell Road, Newmarket, Cambridgeshire, 3.15.

Princess Anne attends the Northumberland Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs fiftieth annual general meeting in Alnwick Castle, Northumberland, 5.45.

Princess Margaret, as President of the Royal Scottish Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children, attends a reception to be given by the Secretary of State for Scotland at Bute House, Edinburgh, 6.15.

The Duke of Kent, as Chairman of the National Electronics Council, attends the first residential course of the Council's "Careers in IT" Programme at the Electrical and Electronic Technicians and Plumbing Union's Residential Training Centre at Esher, Surrey, 9.10.

The Duchess of Kent, as Chancellor, visits Leeds University, arrives Leeds Station, 3.10.

Prince Michael visits the Royal Hospital School, Holbrook, Suffolk, 3.

New exhibitions

Dreamland: the British seaside out of season by Clive Frost and John Sims; Impressions Gallery of Photography, 17 Colliergate, York; Tues to Sat 10 to 6, closed Sun and Mon (ends Dec 24).

Last chance to see

Paintings by John G. Crawford at the Cornerstone Gallery, Cathedral Square, Dunblane, Central Scotland, Mon to Sat 10 to 1 & 2 to 5 (ends today).

Victorian Art Pottery, 1865 to 1920, the Ginnel Gallery, Lloyds House, 16 Lloyd Street, Manchester; Mon to Fri 9 to 5.30 (ends today).

Royal Tunbridge Wells Art Club, annual exhibition, Tunbridge Wells; Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30 (ends today).

Elysian Gardens – the history and conservation of formal gardens, Falmouth Art Gallery, Municipal Buildings, The Moor, Falmouth, Cornwall; Mon to Fri 10 to 1 and 2 to 4.30 (ends today).

Exhibitions in progress

Whitworth Young Contemporaries, '83; Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester University, Whitworth Park; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 9 (until Dec 17).

Music

Concert by the Hilliard Ensemble, Bluecoat Hall, School Lane, Liverpool, 7.30.

Concert by RAF Band, Colston Hall, Colston Street, Bristol, 7.30.

Concert by University Orchestral Society, Wills Memorial Building, University of Bristol, Queen's Road, Bristol, 1.15.

Concert by Scottish National Orchestra, Usher Hall, Edinburgh, 7.30.

Organ recital by Stuart Campbell, Reid Concert Hall, Edinburgh, 1.10.

Concert by Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Music Hall, Aberdeen, 7.30.

Concert by USSR State Symphony Orchestra, Royal Concert Hall, Theatre Square, Nottingham, 7.30.

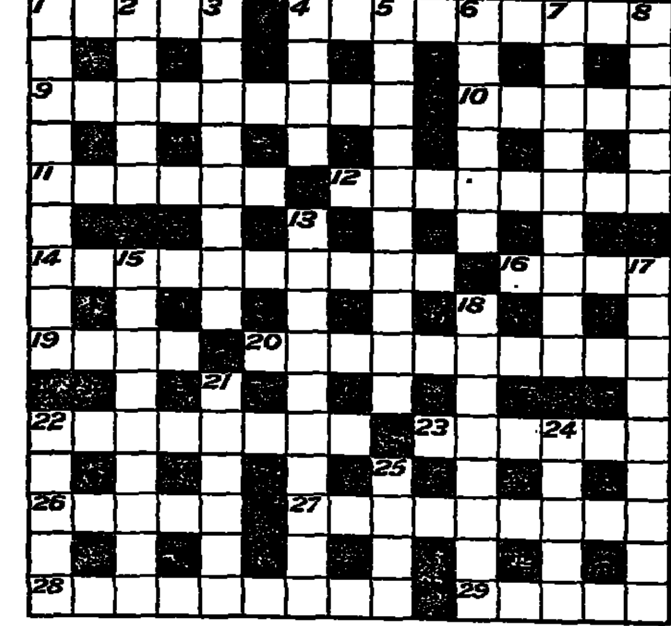
Concert by the Reading Haydn Choir followed by the mediaeval "Play of Adam" at Christ Church, Christchurch Road, Reading, 8.

Musical entertainment with Nicholas Daniel (oboe) the 1980 Young Musician of the Year and Julias Drake (piano) Felixstowe College Chapel, 7.30.

General

Annual Craft Market, Brewery Arts Centre, Kendal, Cumbria, Fri 10.30 to 5.30, Sat 26th 9.30 to 4.30.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,296



ACROSS

1 Incline to give point of view (5).
4 Archbishop goes by rail – seen in London (6.3).
9 Give effect to artisan's demand, perhaps (9).
10 Sail out of port (5).
11 Attempt to include tea-break in agreement (6).
12 Is paid to stain wood – outside figure (4.4).
14 Train no-one backward this term (10).
16 Cheated by heartless poet (4).
19 Kind of professor taking part (4).
20 Penalty kick is given about his roughness to people (10).
22 Not Landseer's work? (8).
23 Port wine type (6).
26 Note or two about clergyman (5).
27 Copy – Naomi duplicated it by mistake (9).
28 Is friend abroad taking gin in the cafe? (9).
29 Flower worn, perhaps (5).

DOWN

1 Still inefficient? (9).
2 Liberal member interrupted poor Lea (5).
3 Decade of normal vision? (8).
4 Drew a coastal feature, say (4).
5 Figurative views harm poetic composition (10).
6 Gale slackening to a smooth passage (6).
7 Prohibit Olga wandering about Indian town (9).
8 Bill is carried by her mount through part of river (5).
13 Arrogance shown since getting money – in top set (10).
15 The way we got over being 17 (9).
17 Having changed a tenner, I'd appear ready to travel (9).
18 Countryman seen about the middle of game (8).
21 Pole gets the best part, causing outcry (6).
22 Black upset the Spanish scholars (5).
24 Apart from a part? (5).
25 Suitable to hold a command (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,295

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 1?

Food prices

Traditional farm-fresh turkeys could be in short supply in some areas this year according to the regional poultry secretary of the National Farmers Union. Although this has been a good growing season fewer farmers are able to devote the time and skill necessary to produce these birds which are "reared by hand, plucked by hand and allowed to hang for several days to improve the texture and flavour before being prepared for the oven." Prices will range from £1.00 to £1.10 a lb, which is considerably dearer than a frozen bird, but for the discerning cook the additional expense will be considered worthwhile. Frozen birds from Beejam cost 56p a lb until January 18. They also supply everthing one needs to know about buying, defrosting and cooking a frozen bird. Marks and Spencer fresh chickens are still down to 69p a lb for all sizes. There are slight increases in some cuts of lamb. Whole legs range from £1.28 to £1.60 a lb., whole shoulders from 76p to £1 a lb. and loin chops £1.34-£1.80 a lb. Leg of pork ranges from 89p to £1.20 and boneless shoulder from 90p to £1.30 a lb. Beef roasting joints show no change but mince and stewing steak have increased fractionally..

Tesco have thick pork and beef sausages at 49p a lb, ideal for a warming beer casserole. Packs of 50 cocktail sausages at Beejam cost 99p.

Last postal calls

The last posting date to send Christmas greetings to servicemen in the South Atlantic and Northern Ireland by the special free aerogrammes will be December 16, as also for Christmas cards and letters. The forces' blue aerogramme forms are available from post offices everywhere. They can be posted free if they are addressed to BFPOs 630, 666, 677 and HM ships in the South Atlantic. A free aerogramme service also operates to and from servicemen in Northern Ireland at BFPOs 801 to 805 inclusive.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.65	1.57
Austria Sch	29.10	27.50
Belgium Fr	84.15	80.25
Canada $	1.87	1.80
Denmark Kr	14.85	14.15
Finland Mkk	8.82	8.42
France Fr	12.40	11.90
Germany DM	4.10	3.91
Greece Dr	160.00	152.00
Hongkong $	11.75	11.15
Ireland Pt	1.33	1.27
Italy Lira	2480.00	2370.00
Japan Yen	360.00	342.00
Netherlands Gld	4.62	4.39
Norway Kr	11.46	10.86
Portugal Esc	202.00	192.00
South Africa Rd	1.81	1.68
Spain Pta	235.00	226.00
Sweden Kr	12.09	11.52
Switzerland Fr	3.32	3.15
USA $	1.51	1.46
Yugoslavia Dnr	220.00	207.00

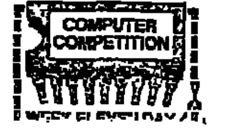
Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 340.7.

London: The *FT* Index closed up 2.4 [illegible]

Parliament today

Commons (9.30) Social Security (Age of Retirement) Bill, second reading.



Roads

Midlands: A52: Contraflow at Sandiacre on Derby to Nottingham Road, Derbyshire. A45: Lane closures in both directions on Newmarket to Cambridge Road. A14: Lane closures on Huntingdon bypass.

North: A6120: Leeds Outer Ring Road. Roadwork, delays in junction with Spen Lane Leeds. M1: Contraflow with delays between junctions 33 and 34, South Yorks.A637: Bailey bridge in use in Barnsley Road between Darton and Barugh, traffic lights, delays expected.

Scotland: A68: All southbound traffic and northbound traffic over 30 cwt diverted north of Dalkeith; northbound traffic reduced to single lane. A1: Carriageway reconstruction between Dunbar and Cockburnspath; single line traffic with lights. A7: Surface damage and road widening south of Goresbridge; two sets of single lane traffic controlled by lights.

Information supplied by AA

Anniversaries

Births: Lope de Vega, Madrid, 1562; Joseph Lancaster, educator, London, 1778; Andrew Carnegie, Dunfermline, 1835; Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli – Pope John XXIII, 1958-63, Sotto il Monte, Italy, 1881.
Deaths: Heinrich Barth, explorer, Berlin, 1865; Lilian Baylis, founder of the Old Vic, London, 1937.

Model delays

The National Maritime Museum has decided to give model-makers taking part in its third Ship Model Competition more time for constructing their models and put back the awards to the Spring of 1986. There are four sections in the competition, aimed at encouraging higher standards of ship modelling – sailing vessels, powered vessels, small craft and miniature ships. Full details of the classes and conditions are contained in the entry form obtainable by post from the Department of Ships, National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London SE10 9NF, or in person from the information desk at the museum (Wst Wing) during normal Museum hours. (the museum is closed on Mondays.)

Top films

Top box office films in London:
1 (1) The Jungle Book/Mickey's Christmas Carol
2 (3) La Traviata
3 (-) Cujo
4 (4) Zelig
5 (5) Octopussy
6 (-) The Lonely Lady
7 (6) Educating Rita
8 (-) Finally Sunday!
9 (3) Class
10 (7) Betrayal

Top five in the provinces:
1 Blue Thunder
2 National Lampoon's Vacation
3 Private Popsicle
4 Breathless
5 Monty Python's The Meaning of Life

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Weather forecast

A depression to west of Scotland will move towards the Shetland Isles, while troughs of low pressure cross England and Wales.

6 am to midnight

London, SE England, East Anglia, E, W Midlands: A few bright intervals in places at first, but becoming cloudy generally with outbreaks of rain, heavy in places; wind SW, strong, max temp 11 to 12C (52 to 54F).

Central S, SW England, Channel Islands, S, N Wales: Cloudy with hill and coastal fog, rain at times, heavy in places; wind SW strong, locally gale; max temp 13 to 14C (55 to 57F).

E, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee: Mainly dry at first with some bright intervals, but becoming cloudy with rain at times, wind SW fresh, max temp 10 to 12C (50 to 54F).

NW, central N England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Northern Ireland: Mostly cloudy with rain at times; wind SW fresh or strong; max temp 10 to 12C (50 to 54F).

Aberdeen, central Highlands, Moray Firth: Rather cloudy with outbreaks of rain or drizzle, but also some bright intervals; wind SW fresh; max temp 10 to 11C (50 to 52F).

NE, NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetlands: Rather cloudy with outbreaks of rain or drizzle, and hill and coastal fog; SW fresh or strong; max temp 9 to 10C (48 to 50F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: cloudy and unsettled with rain at times, but becoming brighter and colder later.

SEA PASSAGES: North Sea: Wind SW fresh or strong, rain at times; sea moderate or rough. **Strait of Dover, English Channel (E):** Wind SW strong or gale force; sea rough. **St George's Channel:** Wind SW strong; sea rough. **Irish Sea:** Wind SW fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough.

Sun rises: 7.34am — Sun sets: 4.00pm
Moon sets: 12.32pm — Moon rises: 8.51pm
Last Quarter November 27.

Lighting-up time

London 4.30 pm to 7.08 am
Bristol 4.40 pm to 7.15 am
Edinburgh 4.21 pm to 7.40 am
Manchester 4.30 pm to 7.23 am
Penzance 4.58 pm to 7.22 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

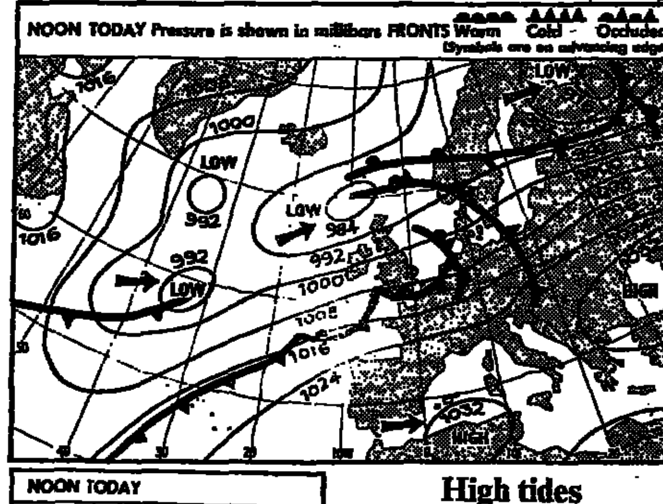
		C	F			C	F
Belfast	r	8	46	Guernsey	c	11	52
Birmingham	r	2	36	Inverness	c	6	43
Blackpool	r	3	37	Jersey	c	8	46
Bristol	c	6	43	London	r	6	43
Cardiff	dr	6	43	Manchester	r	4	39
Edinburgh	f	1	34	Newcastle	f	0	32
Glasgow	c	4	39	Ronaldsway	r	7	45

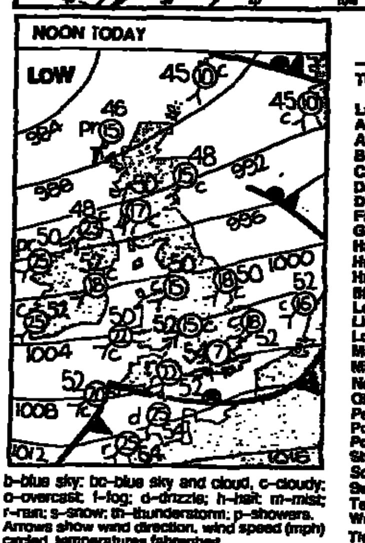
London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 9C (48F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 3C (37F). Humidity: 6 pm, 85 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.05in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,013.8 millibars, steady. 1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Torquay, 15C (59F); lowest day max: Leeming, 1C (34F); highest rainfall: Penzance, 0.30in; highest sunshine: [illegible]





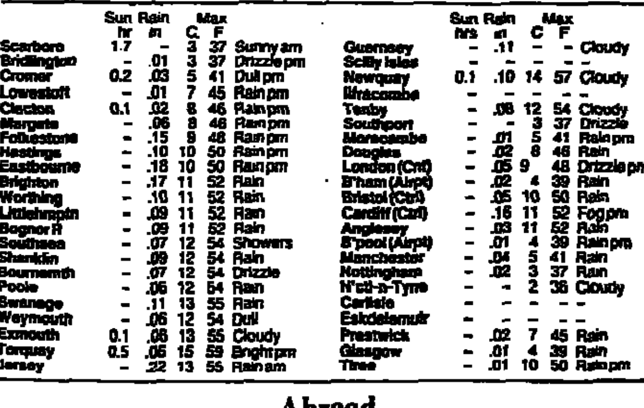
b–blue sky; bc–blue sky and cloud, c–cloudy; o–overcast; f–fog; d–drizzle; h–hail; m–mist; r–rain; s–snow; th–thunderstorm; p–showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled, temperatures fahrenheit.

High tides

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	4.35	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Aberdeen	4.20	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Avonmouth	10.09	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Belfast	1.45	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cardiff	9.52	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Devonport	8.35	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dover	1.38	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Falmouth	8.05	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Glasgow	3.39	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Harwich	2.32	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Holyhead	1.00	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hull	9.14	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ilfracombe	8.47	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Leith	5.53	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Liverpool	7.54	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lowestoft			[illegible]	[illegible]
Margate	2.42	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Milford Haven	9.08	6.5	9.41	6.2
Newquay	8.01	6.5	8.35	6.2
Oban	8.16	3.7	9.02	3.4
Penzance	7.40	5.3	8.17	4.9
Portland	9.40	2.1	10.23	1.8
Portsmouth	2.16	4.4	2.31	4.3
Shoreham	1.53	6.0	2.13	5.8
Southampton	1.38	4.3	1.52	4.3
Swansea	9.08	8.8	9.39	8.4
Tees	6.42	5.0	6.55	5.1
Walton-on-Naze	2.23	4.0	2.49	4.1

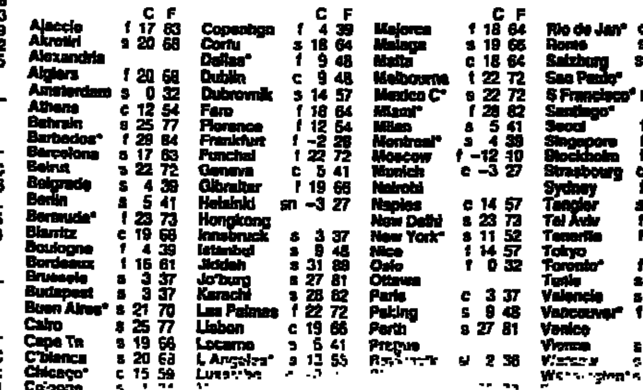
Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain



	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	1.7	–	3	37	Sunny am	Guernsey	–	.11	–	–	Cloudy
Bridlington	–	.01	3	37	Drizzle pm	Scilly Isles	–	–	–	–	–
Cromer	0.2	.03	5	41	Dull pm	Newquay	0.1	.10	14	57	Cloudy
Lowestoft	–	.01	7	45	Rain pm	Ilfracombe	–	–	–	–	–
Clacton	0.1	.02	8	46	Rain pm	Tenby	–	.08	12	54	Cloudy
Margate	–	.06	8	46	Rain pm	Southport	–	–	3	37	Drizzle
Folkestone	–	.15	9	48	Rain pm	Morecambe	–	.01	5	41	Rain pm
Hastings	–	.10	10	50	Rain pm	Douglas	–	.02	8	46	Rain
Eastbourne	–	.18	10	50	Rain pm	London (Cnt)	–	.05	9	48	Drizzle pm
Brighton	–	.17	11	52	Rain	B'ham (Airpt)	–	.02	4	39	Rain
Worthing	–	.10	11	52	Rain	Bristol (Ctrl)	–	.05	10	50	Rain
Littlehmptn	–	.09	11	52	Rain	Cardiff (Ctrl)	–	.16	11	52	Fog pm
Bognor R	–	.09	11	52	Rain	Anglesey	–	.03	11	52	Rain
Southsea	–	.07	12	54	Showers	B'pool (Airpt)	–	.01	4	39	Rain pm
Shanklin	–	.09	12	54	Rain	Manchester	–	.04	5	41	Rain
Bournemth	–	.07	12	54	Drizzle	Nottingham	–	.02	3	37	Rain
Poole	–	.06	12	54	Rain	N'ctl-n-Tyne	–	–	2	36	Cloudy
Swanage	–	.11	13	55	Rain	Carlisle	–	–	–	–	–
Weymouth	–	.06	12	54	Dull	Eskdalemuir	–	–	–	–	–
Exmouth	0.1	.06	13	55	Cloudy	Prestwick	–	.02	7	45	Rain
Torquay	0.5	.05	15	59	Bright pm	Glasgow	–	.01	4	39	Rain
Jersey	–	.22	13	55	Rain am	Tiree	–	.01	10	50	Rain pm

Abroad



MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	f	17	63	Copenhgn	f	4	39	Majorca	f	18	64	Rio de Jan*	c	24	75
Akrotiri	s	20	68	Corfu	s	18	64	Malaga	s	19	66	Rome	s	14	57
Alexandria				Dallas*	f	9	48	Malta	c	18	64	Salzburg	s	–3	27
Algiers	f	20	68	Dublin	c	9	48	Melbourne	f	22	72	Sao Paulo*			
Amsterdam	s	0	32	Dubrovnik	s	14	57	Mexico C*	s	22	72	S Francisco*	r	9	48
Athens	c	12	54	Faro	f	18	64	Miami*	f	28	82	Santiago*			
Bahrain	s	25	77	Florence	f	12	54	Milan	s	5	41	Seoul	f	7	45
Barbados*	f	29	84	Frankfurt	f	–2	28	Montreal*	s	4	39	Singapore	f	30	86
Barcelona	s	17	63	Funchal	f	22	72	Moscow	f	–12	10	Stockholm	f	1	34
Beirut	s	22	72	Geneva	c	5	41	Munich	c	–3	27	Strasbourg	c	0	32
Belgrade	s	4	39	Gibraltar	f	19	66	Nairobi				Sydney	f	20	68
Berlin	s	5	41	Helsinki	sn	–3	27	Naples	c	14	57	Tangier	s	20	68
Bermuda*	f	23	73	Hongkong				New Delhi	s	23	73	Tel Aviv	f	22	72
Biarritz	c	19	66	Innsbruck	s	3	37	New York*	s	11	52	Tenerife	f	23	73
Boulogne	f	4	39	Istanbul	s	9	48	Nice	f	14	57	Tokyo			
Bordeaux	f	16	61	Jiddah	s	31	88	Oslo	f	0	32	Toronto*	f	6	43
Brussels	s	3	37	Jo'burg	s	27	81	Ottawa				Tunis	s	19	66
Budapest	s	3	37	Karachi	s	28	82	Paris	c	3	37	Valencia	s	20	68
Buen Aires*	s	21	70	Las Palmas	f	22	72	Peking	s	9	48	Vancouver*	f	7	45
Cairo	s	25	77	Lisbon	c	19	66	Perth	s	27	81	Venice			
Cape Tn	s	19	66	Locarno	s	5	41	Prague				Vienna	s	3	37
C'blanca	s	20	68	L Angeles*	s	13	55	Reykjavik	[illegible]	2	36	Warsaw	c	1	34
Chicago*	c	15	59	Luxembourg	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]				Washington*	s	18	[illegible]
Cologne	s	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]						[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]			

هكذا من الأصل